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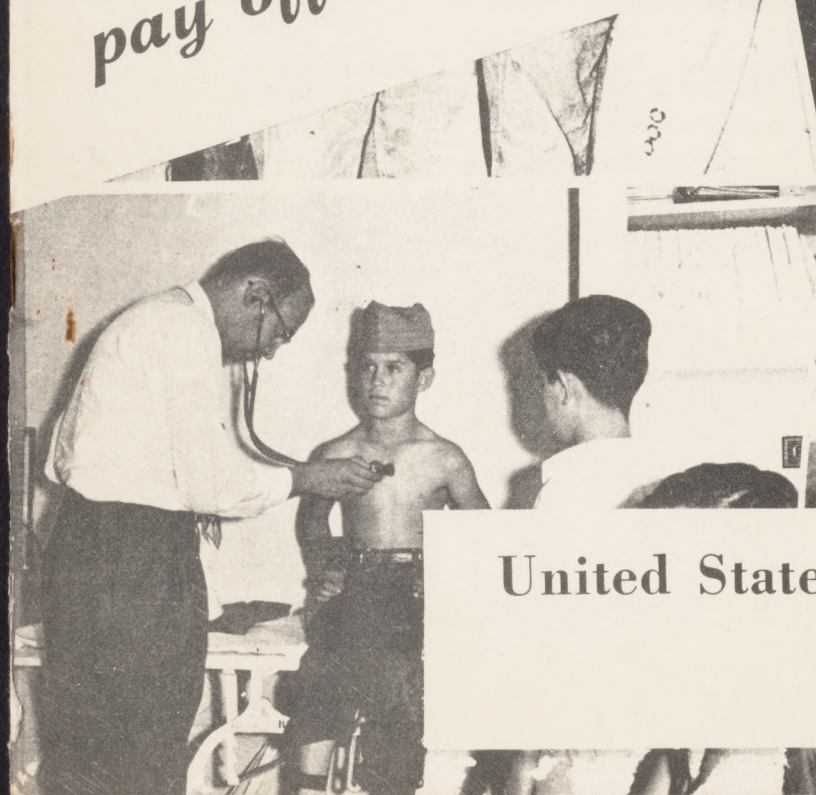
February 1956



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Improved conditions for migrant labor pay off for growers and the community



United States Department of Labor

Bureau of Employment Security

Farm Placement Service



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Year After Year The Same Migrant Crews Return and Stay Till the Crops Are Harvested

Family Welcome for Migrants

By Jane Mary Farley
Of The Journal Staff

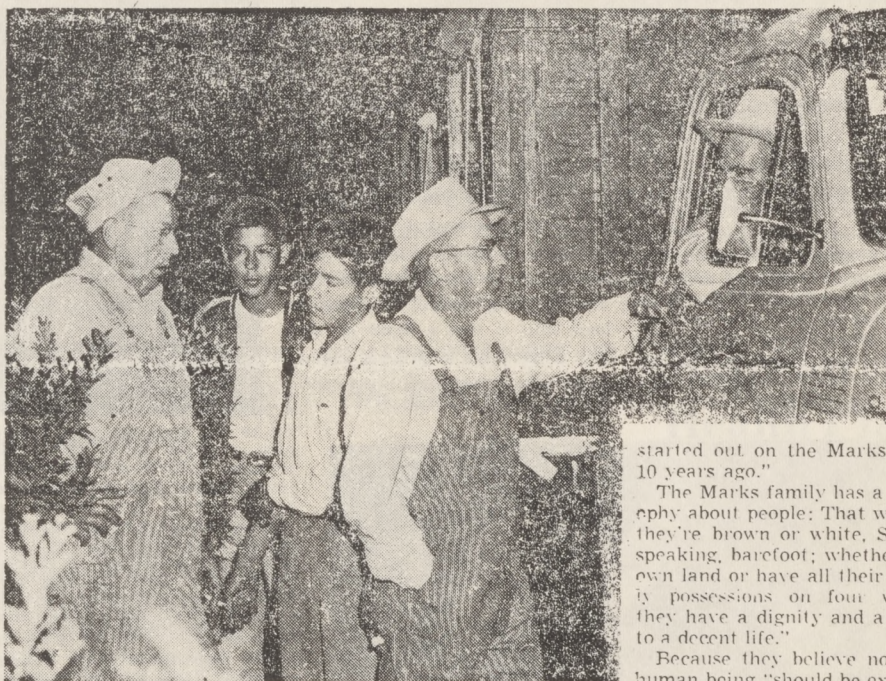
A truck packed with dusky skinned, black eyed Americans, bedding, battered trunks, pots and pans, raises dust along one of the back roads lacing Wau-shara county's sandy farmland. It is one of a patient procession drifting from harvest to harvest to pluck the fruits of the land. Its riders are a hard working, long suffering tribe whose wants are simple, whose needs many. And painted on its side is the irrevocable legend, "El Camino Es Mi Destino," "The Road Is My Fate."

Wautoma, Wis.—For the last six weeks, 5,000 migrants have crept across Wau-shara county flats harvesting 30% of the nation's pickle crop, a current in the human tide of no one knows how many millions who drift in three great streams following United States plantings and harvests.

Back in southern Texas, many of them have shacks they call home, boarded up and empty because a man cannot find enough work to feed a family of 8 or 10 or 12. Adam's old curse has dogged each of them personally down to the youngest laborer. A migrant knows what it means to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow. So he goes out to the fields at 4:30 each morning. Row after row he bends his back to the sun until it becomes strong as granite and he can bear his burden with increasing stoicism.

Encounter Hardships

Since last November, when he and his family began the long annual limbo in the fields, the



The kindly Marks brothers, Clarence, left, and Reuben (hand in pocket), take time to visit with their workers, listen to problems, fill their essential needs.

Texas-Mexican and his household have been jammed into trucks. Cotton in Texas, sugar beets in Missouri and Minnesota, cherries, corn, peas and pickles in Wisconsin, tomatoes in Illinois and back to Missouri, Nebraska and Texas again. On their hard and hopeless circuit, these people will tell you reluctantly, there are places in other parts of the midwest where they sleep in blankets on the road beside their trucks, on the floor of state employment offices, in fair parks. They gesture vaguely toward the west; sometimes farmers who are supposed to provide them with living quarters, beds, mattresses and sanitary facilities offer them a converted chicken coop, an old barn, squeeze a dozen families in units built for half as many.

They live haunted by the crops and the weather. If the pickles "come on" there is dancing in the streets. Often they pick in the rain. One summer when hail here the ball's rolling and it

ruined the pickles hundreds of families were packed and gone in a day, desperate for another crop somewhere.

Their English is hesitant, their lives simple. None of them has ever been to school more than a few months at a time. Life becomes a wretched odyssey. That is why when migrants find a place like the Marks brothers near here it's like finding a little patch of heaven.

Philosophy About People

"I'll tell you how important it is to do something for the migrant," Ted Scalissi, a staffer at the temporary state employment office, was emphatic. "It's so important it's a necessity. These people usually don't have anything. They aren't wanted anywhere. They go into a town and what can they do? They sit on the curbs and along the store fronts. They go to a show. They don't have anything to do. But

started out on the Marks place, 10 years ago."

The Marks family has a philosophy about people: That whether they're brown or white, Spanish speaking, barefoot; whether they own land or have all their worldly possessions on four wheels, they have a dignity and a "right to a decent life."

Because they believe no other human being "should be expected to do anything we wouldn't want to do ourselves," the family governs its pickle picking and packing business and its temporary employees with a kind of social justice the migrant seldom finds in his dusty, weary, shabby world.

"We all believe these people are equal to us because they are," added Mrs. Gordon Marks, a daughter-in-law who helps at the family's pickle station. "They're made exactly like us. We know we depend on them for a living."

Said Clarence Marks, "That's why we felt that instead of working from morning to night we should give them something else, too."

Make Families Comfortable

So, long before a state code governed the treatment of migrants, the Marks brothers had built little cottages out under the trees. These still stand, crowded and rough, but not more so than Wisconsin lake cabins. Of the hundreds of farms in the area who billeted the migrants during the pickle season, the Marks brothers' settlement is one of only four state certified camps.

Workers still carry their drinking water in pails, stopping it

against their bare, brown legs. But there is a concrete block wash house, toilets and laundry in which they can keep luxuriously clean. There are screens on the windows and electrical outlets; big double beds with good mattresses.

Above all there are the Marks brothers themselves, Clarence, Reuben and their families, soft spoken, friendly people.

Elsewhere communities who bring in migrants anticipate trouble. But to the Marks brothers it's like having their own kin come home to roost for a while.

"We get to know these people and there's none finer," Reuben said quietly.

It was on the Marks farm that the half and half harvest system was originated to replace the hamper system. It means a higher quality harvest and better chance for the laborers to earn, and has since spread among packers and growers across the nation; half of everything the migrant picks being his the other half the farmer's. Here in their side yard migrants from farms for miles around congregate on Wednesday nights for movies. The little ones poke at a pinata filled with sweets

and presents or play with coloring books and scamper across the lawn to find a place to sit before the cartoon begins. Young girls giggle and talk; the women, silent, shy shadows when they are not working in the sun, sit in cars pulled up on the grass outdoor theater style. Someone always keeps an eye on the young people, for traditional courting discipline is so strict that the unengaged may not even talk to one another.

Good Friends, Bad Times

Like figures in an Orozco mural, handsome, lean faced men with stony profiles and long, brown hands talk about the weather, the crops in front of the little refreshment stand where they can buy soft drinks and Texas hamburgers almost at cost. The Marks people drift in and out of these groups, easily asking workers about their families, their picking, quietly slipping a loan into a man's hand or an arm around his shoulders; using a Spanish phrase, delighting each in calling him by name.



A little Spanish American gets a long drink from a water cooler supplied to the camp school by a group of churchwomen.



Mrs. Gordon Marks, 23, chairman of the migrant camp school, travels the countryside to raise money, recruit help and supplies for the project. Carlos Hornedo, El Paso, Tex., is a member of the teaching staff.

When crops are good, workers dance in the street or to records in the Marks' shed. But when the pickles "don't come on," Marks' workers always leave with something, even if it's "Here's \$100 for your transportation," Scalissi confided. Usually the brothers also pay the itinerants transportation from their last job, too, at the rate of a cent a mile per worker. Winters, when the going in Texas gets tough, migrants know where they can get a loan in a hurry, Reuben Marks smiled.

No one can remember workers ever being pirated off the Marks field—not even before the state employment office was set up in Wautoma five years ago.

The Marks brothers' settlement is just a small patch on the broad flats of Waushara county but their philosophy is gradually being shared by neighboring independent growers and packers. Individuals in the community, too, are discovering a responsibility toward the migrant and have begun to work together to make his six week stay more bearable.

Community Groups Help

Chief activity is a summer school and camp set up for migrant youngsters in the little community hall at the near-by town of Marion. Under the chairmanship of 23 year old Mrs. Gordon Marks, church and civic groups from all over the county have raised

enough money to hire teachers from the home missions division of the National Council of Churches of Christ to help run the project. There under the trees, black eyed, dusky skinned Spanish Americans are learning to play "Farmer in the Dell," to sing "Old McDonald Had a Farm," to paint bright pictures for their loving mamas. In many places they trail to the hot fields to play between the rows while their elders work. But at the Waushara summer camp they learn sums, how to brush their teeth, how to read "Anglo" instead. Always on the move, the children seldom have more than a month or two schooling in one spot.

Each morning the school's station wagon, "The Harvester," and another car donated by a local garage, make the broad circuit of a dozen farms around the Marks place carrying 30 to 36 children off for schooling and organized play while their fathers, mothers, big brothers and sisters trudge off to the fields.

Women from churches in the vicinity take turns baking cookies to serve with milk as a mid-morning snack; girls from town come out to help with games. Equipment and supplies are furnished by churches or bought at discount from sympathetic suppliers. The county nurse has inspected eyes, ears and throats, reporting find-

Continued page 4

MIGRANT 'SCHOOLS' DOT JERSEY FARMS

Ministers and Young Helpers
Spend Many Hours Teaching
English to Puerto Ricans

7,000 IN STATE NEED AID

Phonetics and Pictures Used
to Show Words and Sounds
to Pupils Eager to Learn

Special to The New York Times.

LUDLOW, N. J., Aug. 18—A young man stepped into a cabbage patch near here late one day recently and beckoned to a group of Puerto Rican migrants. The response was instantaneous. They dropped their tools and eagerly followed him into a barn that serves as a school.

The action took place on Plenge Brothers' Warren County truck farm in the foothills of the Kittatinny Mountains. It caused no stir. The farmer and his family had seen the performance weekly since early spring. They knew that similar activities were under way on other Jersey farms as the work-day ended.

The leader here is 28-year-old Armando Divas, a divinity student. Now assistant pastor of the Memorial Presbyterian Church in Dover, he is devoting six evenings a week to the educational, spiritual and recreational needs of some of the 7,000 Puerto Ricans now working on Jersey farms.

Probably the most unusual phase of his work involves the training of non-Spanish-speaking parishioners in the art of teaching English to migrants familiar only with Spanish. In this he has been most successful. So have three other clergymen engaged in a similar task from Cape May to High Point.

Has Teen-Age Helpers

The parishioners are primarily teen-agers. Two of them, Susan Miller of Dover and Esther Miller of Mount Freedom, both 15 but no relation, accompanied Mr. Divas. There was no doubt of their enthusiasm and sincerity.

They used primarily a new type of textbook compiled by Frank C. Laubach, literacy expert, in which both phonetics and illustrations are used to indicate words as well as sounds. The pupils' eagerness and attentiveness were pronounced.

They have learned that the letter V is signified by the horns of a steer; that a wide-open mouth and a rounded chin form a small letter a. A picture of a man with a suitcase ringing a

doorbell illustrates the word "visiting." And so on.

While the girls are conducting their class, Mr. Divas, himself a Guatemalan, conducts one of his own. This is for migrants who have never learned to read or write any language. They number 15 per cent of all Puerto Rican farm hands in New Jersey. There is little difference in the method of teaching either group. And, says Mr. Divas, both efforts are "astoundingly successful."

Hymns Follow Class

After class a portable organ was unveiled and Mr. Divas produced a score of hymn books. Accompanied by Susan on the organ and Esther on the violin, the students, all men ranging from 20 to 50, enthusiastically joined in singing their favorite hymns.

Later they watched a motion picture projected on the side of the barn by Mr. Divas. And, before his departure, many discussed with him their personal and spiritual problems.

The farmers are delighted with the work done by Mr. Divas and his colleagues. They not only encourage their activities but are disappointed if they do not appear each week. For they have found that workers thus ministered to are decidedly more content and thus more productive.

The entire project was initiated by the New Jersey Council of Churches little more than a year ago. It is supported primarily by voluntary contributions and is daily being extended to include more and more migrants. Mr. Divas' weekly itinerary includes Rocky Hill, Princeton Township, Budd Lake and Dover as well as Ludlow.

New Jersey also has a State educational program - See pp 14, 28.



Armando Divas, a divinity student, greets some of the migrants as they come in from the field of the Plenge Brothers farm in Ludlow to attend his classes. He and three other fellow-clergymen are engaged in missionary work, catering to the educational, spiritual and recreational needs of many of the 7,000 Puerto Ricans who now work on Jersey farms.

HEALTH PLAN SET UP FOR MIGRANT LABOR

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 — A 1954 pilot health project among Mexican migrant laborers in Colorado may be a trail-blazer for similar cooperative action in all parts of the country next year.

The project at Fort Lupton involved Federal, state and local government, the Great Western Sugar Company, the State University and many private agencies. A report on its progress is being circulated among the members of inter-governmental committees concerned with the migrant problem. A documentary film of the project also is being shown.

Ninety per cent of all seasonal workers from the Southwestern states are employed and assigned to farms by the sugar company in the early spring through the Fort Lupton camp. After the sugar beet season closes, the same workers became available for vine crops. Attention was called to the bad health problems among these workers last year.

A clinic, providing extensive health services, was set up at the camp this year.

A special report was made to the Federal Children's Bureau on the 329 children under 15 years of age who were among the first 648 persons examined at the clinic. As a result of the findings the Colorado Health Department is setting up a child health project for next year.

Migrant Labor Health Plans Are Discussed

Public Health experts representing three divisions of the U. S. Health, Education and Welfare department met with state health officials Monday to outline the nation's pioneer effort in a migrant labor health program.

Arch Clark, Denver, representing the U. S. public health service, said the program will be a cooperative effort among federal agencies and the state health departments of Oregon and Idaho.

Primary purpose of the experiment, Clark said, is to provide protective health services for the thousands of seasonal workers who stream into the Magic valley and lower Snake river area during each agricultural season.

He said a traveling clinic, which will include a state X-ray unit, two rolling examining rooms and a traveling laboratory will visit each labor camp in the areas.

Each laborer and member of his family will be offered a complete physical examination, including X-ray and blood test, Clark said. If signs of disease are found, he said, they will be referred to local physicians for treatment.

Clark said the first visits will be made toward the latter part of this week to the labor camps in the Magic valley area.

The clinic will be preceded by a Spanish-speaking field man who will explain the advantages of the service to the workers, Clark said.

Continued from page 2

ings to parents.

A service station sells gas for the Harvester at cut rates. A church group donated a water cooler. Next winter one youth group will repair desks. This year still another organization of young church people made extra chairs from orange crates.

Four nights a week, teen agers are encouraged to attend classes in English and crafts conducted at the Marks farm. Even after a long day at stoop labor, Miss Goodwin finds that fingers adept at wrenching a living from the soil are as handy at leather and needles. The boys have been organized into baseball teams at four points in the county. Carlos Horneda, El Paso, Tex., another member of the school recreation staff travel from farm to farm to coach the groups. Sundays the league draws hundreds to its baseball games. The third staffer is Miss Ruth Anna Hoff, New Windsor, Md.

Eventually, backers hope, the program will educate adults, on essentials like child care, nutrition, wise budgeting, housekeeping. Next year's plans call for another camp to be set up near the Glenn Trickey farm, 16 miles northwest of the city.

Migrants Grateful

"All these are simple little things. But they're so appreciative of everything you do," the young Mrs. Marks has found. "They can't say thank you enough." It drives her to fund raising speeches as far away as Neenah. Several Neenah and Oshkosh churches and groups from other neighboring counties have decided to help with the mission project. Old clothes and toys are gathered for rummage sales where coats go for 25c and shoes for 10c.

"They're too proud to have things given to them," she said seriously. "They want to feel that they've somehow paid for these things."

The temporary state employment office has been a great help to the county's migrant and farmer alike. It has cut pirating completely, brought in emergency workers and helped others move to spots where work is known to exist. Scalissi and Al Stamborski, Oshkosh, spend months inspecting 300 to 500 farms in the area to determine accommodations available and make suggestions for improving living conditions for the migrants when they do arrive.

Staff members are encouraging a plan to build quarters for the overflow, stake out parks and picnic grounds for the workers and hope, like the Marks family

Children of Migrant Families Attend School at Spring Lake

and their neighbors, to do something about providing medical and dental care.

Seek to Understand Workers

"We must continually try to understand these people better," Mrs. Marks explained. Members of the family and any neighbors who wish gather at 1:30 each afternoon while bilingual Carlos conducts a class in Spanish language and culture.

But members of the family and staffs of the employment service and the school admit that it is from the migrants themselves that they have learned the most.

Children of the farmers play amiably with their little Texas-Mexican visitors; parents note less fighting. The black eyed children get enough milk for once; the farm youngsters learn to eat tortillas with peanut butter on them, and speak a few Spanish words.

"You got to love these people," young Mrs. Marks spoke for her family. From their long association with them, the Marks families and their colleagues have come to know the Spanish Americans as a "gentle and fine people, none nicer."

"Father is boss," said Clarence Marks, smiling. Overburdened mother works in the fields, keeps house, has a child almost every year. Yet she is quick to note her youngsters' needs and swift to impose both love and law. Children seldom cry, play quietly and happily together. Married sons, daughters, cousins, grandparents travel together. There are often enough relatives to work a whole pickle patch.

The Contreras family, for instance—parents, sisters, brothers, daughters-in-law, children — occupy three of the Marks' 18 units.

And year after year the crews—perhaps half a hundred people or more—consider themselves lucky to return to this haven.

"We write. We say we are on our way," the bright eyed Nancy Contreras explained. "Mr. Reuben write back. He say he is glad." Her face lighted when she talked about him. "So we come again this way."

Milwaukee Journal gave this feature 1½ pages with many pictures.

SPRING LAKE — Children of fairly proficient in reading and migrant workers, whose largely writing the English language. A nomadic life precludes regular high percentage of the children school attendance, are attending classes in the Town of Marion Hall English, but few have attended and in a tent nearby under the school long enough to master anything but the simplest reading matter.

This is the third straight year that a school has been set up here with the summer school which will for the Spanish-Americans and a few Mexicans whose parents work the girls wear immaculate and in the pickle fields of Waushara brightly colored dresses while the County. Enrollment at the school boys are neat and scrubbed and is 39 with two groups meeting separately. The older children are thoroughly checked by their mothers before coming to school. The sessions start at 8:30 in the morning and continue to 12:30. Milk and cookies are served during the forenoon.

Time for Play

For the older children, the course of studies consists of reading, writing, arithmetic and drawing. For the smaller children, the time is spent on drawing and supervised recreation. Many of the tots bring their toys to the school and "play house" in the tent.

Some of the older students, who are attending the school for the third straight year, have become

Families of the pupils are on the move a great deal of the time. They follow the various crops over much of the United States during the course of the year. Most of them are natives of Texas and spend a considerable time during the winter there, but many of them have no real "home town." At the school here, all are Texans except the children of one family from Mexico.

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

CHURCHES SERVING MIGRANT FARMERS

Program Now Operated in 25 States Offers School, Health, Play and Spiritual Guidance

A group of migrant farm workers who follow the crops north from Texas is now receiving continuous educational, health, recreational and religious services under a church-supported program that is being operated in twenty-five states.

This was reported yesterday by the Rev. William E. Scholes of Chicago, a supervisor of migrant work in the Division of Home Missions of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. He spoke at a meeting of the National Migrant Committee at the Parkside Hotel, Twentieth Street and Irving Place. The committee is affiliated with the national council.

Mr. Scholes said the services were provided to the migrants as they left Texas and fanned

north to points as far distant as Ohio and North Dakota. Under way for six weeks, the program is known as the "Migrant Ministry."

Under the experiment, 1,000 migrant families receive two cards on their departure from five south Texas cities. One card is mailed to their destination and alerts the "Migrant Ministry" in the area of the individual's family's probable arrival. The other card is kept by the migrant for identification purposes.

Mr. Scholes explained that the church groups with which the migrant committee worked had distinctive signs posted at strategic locations so that the families might easily locate the group designated to assist them. The work is carried on with twenty-one station wagons that are equipped with such articles as a folding chair altar, portable organ, film projector, record player, athletic equipment, books and first aid kit.

Miss Edith E. Lowry, executive secretary of the National Migrant Committee, praised a child care center in Redland Camp, Homestead, Fla., as having high standards of operation. The camp is operated by growers and the center by church workers affiliated with the national committee.

2 TRAINED WORKERS BRING RECREATION TO FIELD CAMPS

Toys Available For Children;
Adults See Movies
At Night

MIGRANTS FOLLOW CROPS

By Alice Kells

The spiritual well-being of the thousands of families who travel from one end of the country to the other as the seasons change and the crops are ready for harvesting has become a matter of foremost importance to the National Council of Churches. To meet this need, the home missions division of the National Council, with central offices in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles, sends trained workers into the areas where these families are working. They bring them recreational facilities and through educational guidance give them a feeling of security.

The Adrian Council of Churches, working with the National Council, made arrangements for two workers to be in Lenawee county this season when migrant families are living on the farms and working in the fields during the tomato, sugar beet and cucumber harvest. There are 36 so-called "camps" of these families in the county these few weeks. Most of them move on with the crops, but a few may find employment and remain in this locality. The majority of the migrant families are Mexicans from the southern part of Texas who come north during the summer and follow the crops, picking strawberries as they ripen, working in the cherry and peach orchards and working their way south as vegetables are ready for the canning factories.

Take Training Course

The two young women who are working for three weeks in the county under the church program are Miss Tavita Hernandez of Falfurrias, Texas, and Miss Mary Fugat of Rochester, Pa. Miss Hernandez, whose father is a Presbyterian minister, is a senior at Trinity University in San Antonio where she is majoring in social work. Miss Fugat is a second year student in the divinity school at Yale University at New Haven, Conn. Both young women attended a training course in Chicago at the beginning of the summer. They have been in North Dakota with the sugar beet workers and in Traverse City with the cherry pickers. Miss Hernandez

will go to Norwalk, Ohio, to work with the corn pickers before the season closes. Miss Fugat will return to school when she leaves Lenawee county.

The program of the National Council of Churches is non-denominational and is threefold. The workers first visit all the camps, talk with the people, and endeavor to make them feel at ease. Secondly, by recreational facilities they bring them a form of relaxation, teach them to share with each other and show them the Christian spirit of working together. In the third place, the workers hold informal gatherings when they read Bible stories to the children and in the evening show religious films, as well as other films, to the adults.

Those families who are members of a church are urged to attend their own church. The program is conducted by all the churches. A group of the migrant workers attended services Sunday at the A.M.E. and Second Baptist churches in Adrian.

Help In Sewing

A typical day starts with repairing used toys and making and painting doll beds, shelves and chests made from orange crates and packing boxes. The afternoon

is devoted to the women and children, as the men are in the fields, except on a rainy day. The leaders provide baseballs and bats and organize a baseball game for the boys. The girls are taught games and given toys to play with.

During their stay in the county, a sewing machine was loaned to the workers and many of the women have done their mending and some have made dresses for their children. After the games, a devotional service is held and then with the help of the children, the workers pack up the recreational equipment for use at the next camp. In the evening, the families are shown movies which include comedies, educational and religious films.

With one group of native Mexicans in the county Miss Hernandez has organized a class in English. As these people know no English, Miss Hernandez said "It is difficult to teach much in such a short time, but the important thing for them to know is how to count American money."

First Time In County

The co-operation of the Adrian Council of Churches has aided greatly on the success of the program carried on for the first time

in Lenawee county. With headquarters in the basement of the Presbyterian church, the workers have been provided with transportation by members of the churches and have been entertained in homes.

The importance of continuing the program during the year will be one of the projects taken up by the Lenawee County Ministerial Association. Those from the Adrian Council of Churches who made the arrangements for the program were the Rev. Robert L. McCachran, finances, the Rev. R. L. Williams and Miss Hope Lowry, housing, Mrs. Leigh Peters, transportation, and Mrs. Ruth Borra-dale orientation.

Michigan has had in operation for many years numerous projects for education, housing, and transportation for the benefit of migrant workers. Two State committees on migrant labor cooperate with church and private groups and individuals. See p. 28.

A PORTABLE PLAYGROUND GOES TO TOMATO FARM



The appearance of the station wagon loaded with toys is the signal for children of tomato workers on the John Stutzman farm just north of Seneca to flock to the recreation area. Miss Tavita Hernandez sets up a play sink while the children show interest in other toys. (Telegram Staff Photos.)

Townpeople Rally to Aid of Migrant Workers to Make Stay Here Pleasant

By HAL HENIGSON

For the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce Committee on Migrant Labor.

Once again Nyssa has gone to the forefront with an activity which is typical of the slogan that "Nyssa is best for and to everybody." Ever since the Amalgamated Sugar Company has been bringing in migrant labor to make possible a successful program, we have been faced with the problem of adjusting our way of life to the presence of those men, women and their families from the Southwest and West, who arrive in the spring and leave in the fall.

Last year the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce undertook a migrant labor program under the committee chairmanship of the Rev. John Briel, with the purpose of providing recreation, housekeeping, sewing, arts and crafts, decorating and other useful courses for our temporary residents.

Through the auspices of the National Council of Churches, a Spanish couple, the Rev. Frank Reyes and his wife, Maria Reyes, were brought in for about three months, to conduct the program. Materially, the program was a huge success although it acquired a deficit of \$300.00 on a budget of about \$900.00. This year the program was again undertaken by the Chamber of Commerce and it appears that once again we will have a successful operation materially.

Business Men Help

Financially, the response from the people of Nyssa has been limited mainly to a small group of business men who might be classed as receiving direct business advantage from the presence of migrant labor. Besides these were two cash contributions from local residents who are among those who believe that helping the lot of our temporary neighbors while sojourning in Nyssa is one of the responsibilities of our community. These latter contributions, have been especially welcome as we are so apt to forget humanity in the fast tempo of modern living.

Mr. and Mrs. Reyes have done an excellent job of organizing the program. They have been ably assisted by Misses Gretchen Rinehart, Pat Barclay and Marjory Tyler who have been shouldering the burdens of several classes. Through the cooperation of most of the churches of Nyssa, a women's group was formed under the chairmanship of Mrs. Kenneth Danford to collect apparel and conduct bi-week-

ly thrift sales at the Camp, where wire needed for the baseball backstops and Mr. and Mrs. Grant Lewis contributed a swing are, with the same problems of "merchandise" has been sold as an addition to the main swing, caring for their children, living a tribute to the quality of apparel Since completion the swings are normal lives, enjoying some form being offered by Nyssans and in constant demand by the young-of recreation and trying to immer element and the goal posts prove their lot (by hard work). are receiving an unusual work-The unfortunate difference is that out these hot days. they are not blessed with liveli-

Equipment Given

As the camp was devoid of recreational equipment, other than what passes for a baseball field, Paul Penrod, of Idaho Power Co., offered to provide and install the posts for a children's swing and two basketball goals. In this he was assisted by the sugar company which provided some of the accessories for the swings and Mayor Paul House, who personally assisted in the technical construction. To complete this project, Rex Voeller, of Nyssa Theatre, contributed the basketball hoops and Bob Wilson, of Wilson's Department Store, contributed a basketball. Ted Morgan contributed woven

While this may be regarded as though the Migrant Labor Committee of the Chamber of Commerce is responsible for all the progress at the Camp, it is not intended in such light. The success of a program such as this depends on full cooperation of all. The administration of the Camp must necessarily set the pattern. In this, Bill Shambaugh has provided the maximum in administrative ability. He commands the respect of the camp residents and in turn respects them for maintaining camp standards. The Nyssa schools has helped by receiving the children of Camp residents as regular students, regardless of

hoods which offer the security of a fixed permanent residence. The benefits of this program can never be evaluated on a day to day basis, but over a period of years will bear fruit in the better understanding of different people toward each other. The success of our program will be apparent when more local people feel impelled to become active in serving the program.

A good start has been made but further help is needed. The committee needs baseball gloves, a catcher's mask, a chest protector, several bats and baseballs. A ping pong table not being used will be gratefully received.

Recreational Facilities Added to Labor Camp



LOCAL FOLKS, from civic workers and church groups to business men, have been active in Nyssa's program of assistance for the comfort of migrant laborers and their families. The upper picture shows swings just installed at the Labor Camp with materials supplied by Nyssans. Below, the Rev. Frank Reyes and Paul Penrod, manager of Idaho Power, are shown beneath one of the standards of a basketball court which local people installed.

—Schoen photos

the length of their attendance. Cause For Pride

Nyssa can well be proud of its Migrant Labor Program, as neighboring Caldwell is planning a similar program for next year, modeled on the Nyssa plan, and favorable comment has come from California and Texas.

However the camp residents are not the only ones benefiting from the program. It is equally beneficial to Nyssa residents in that it offers the opportunity of discovering that the people living in the Camp, despite their differ-

Phone Hal Henigson (6696) if you have some equipment which can be used at camp.

In field of sports the Camp baseball team ("Texas Longhorns") have played 11 games throughout the valley and have a record of 9 wins. On the volleyball court, the Longhorns have yet to be defeated although in 9 games the team has played all comers including the First Baptist church men of Ontario, Nyssa LDS wards, Payette, Adrian Weiser and other local teams.

When migrant children arrive

...Volunteers are There to Help

Crop Pickers' Dilemma

By MARGARET HICKEY

MOTHERS know that their growing boys and girls need the vitamins that tree-ripened fruits and garden-fresh vegetables provide. But how many know the human, often tragic story behind the harvesting of these crops so vital to the family's health? Those snappy string beans admired by Mrs. Smith of Main Street may have been picked by a barefoot, undernourished child who has never romped on a real playground or by an older boy unable to write because the family's dusty truck never stopped in one place long enough for him to go to school.

Crop picking is essential work, so migrant families—more than a million of them—move up and down the country, belonging to no town. Their only shelter may be a shanty, a dilapidated barn, an abandoned freight train, or even a chicken coop.

U.S. Children's Bureau studies have produced striking facts about the unhappy conditions of these transient children's lives. One private organization—the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.—has established a program of concrete help.

Last summer, 150 teachers, school principals and ministers, along with another 150 college students, moved into migrant camps in 12 states. They organized child-care centers for the youngest, high-school classes for the older children and adults; arranged Sunday-school and worship services; provided recreational activities for all age groups. All told, they reached an estimated 100,000 migrants.

A typical child-care center, according to Miss Edith Lowry, leader of the home-missions program, provided breakfast, lunch and two between-meal snacks, including always orange juice and cod-liver oil.

High-school instruction followed the quick and effective method of putting over the three R's originated by Dr. Frank Laubach, literacy expert. Pickers learned to read road signs, count money, make telephone calls, use the post office and the bank.

The activities stirred up by the National Council of Churches have encouraged other groups to help. Boy or Girl Scout leaders are undertaking to bring the Scout program to transient children in Colorado, Florida, Michigan, New York and New Jersey. In California, two 4-H clubs have been organized and a State Migrant Committee is under way.

In Wisconsin, the Governor's Commission on Human Rights urges communities to accept the migrants as temporary citizens, grant them the same privileges that others enjoy. Community interest was first aroused in 1949, when Texas-Mexican children were denied use of the swimming pool in the Waupun area. Now both local and visiting children play together on municipal playgrounds under locally sponsored supervision. Churches and organizations put on family-night programs at the camps and Saturday-night fiestas in town, with both migrant and local families attending.

END

It was nearly suppertime when the doctor beckoned Mrs. Martinez into her office. The mother had been there since eleven, cradling the sick baby in her arms and whispering to it softly in Spanish.

"I'm sorry you had to wait so long." Dr. Elfriede Horst spoke slowly, distinctly, to help her understand. She had seen one patient after another all day, still had three house calls to make before giving a talk at her women's-group meeting. "Why didn't you call to let me know you were coming?" she asked. "Then I could have seen you right away."

Mrs. Martinez smiled shyly. She was a small, very young woman with scrawny arms and a thin face that brightened when she looked at the baby. The neat flowered cotton house dress she wore showed plainly she was expecting another child. "I no understand telephone," she apologized. "I wait."

Doctor Horst had heard this same explanation from other wives of Spanish-speaking migrant farm laborers. Many of these Mexican-American families who had left Texas for the summer to pick onions, tomatoes, string beans and corn on farms near Des Plaines, Illinois, did not know how to use a telephone. And they were afraid to try because it was hard to understand and be understood in English.

"What are you feeding the baby?" Doctor Horst asked as she picked up the pale, listless Martinez child, lean and puny for his nine months.

"The formula," his mother answered.

"What formula?"

"The one the doctor give when he is born."

"My goodness!" the doctor exclaimed. "That's not enough for a growing boy." From her desk drawer she took several sample cans of baby foods. "Your baby needs more than just milk," she explained. "Take these and buy more later. Be sure that he eats three times a day." Then she vaccinated the infant against smallpox and gave him his first inoculation against typhoid, tetanus and diphtheria.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



In carefully enunciated English, these Spanish-speaking children of farm workers from Texas recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag at the A. A. U. W. Migrant School in Des Plaines, Illinois.

With the help of friendly volunteer teachers, they are learning that, though only temporary members of the community, they are citizens too.

Continued from page 7

When Mrs. Martinez left, Doctor Horst washed her hands, hastily applied pink lipstick and patted her smooth blond hair, which she combed straight back (for practicality's sake) and rolled snugly at the neck. The house calls would have to wait, she decided, or she'd be late for the meeting.

That was in May, 1948. The Northwest Suburban Branch of the American Association of University Women was newly organized that year with twenty-five members, most of them young mothers; a few, like Doctor Horst, business or professional women. It started out to be just an ordinary meeting with a talk and refreshments . . . until Doctor Horst made a spur-of-the-moment decision. Crumpling up her original sketchy notes, she began telling the story of the Martinez baby and the other Mexican-American children she had treated:

Elisa, the twelve-year-old with long dark pigtailed, who had so proudly showed the doctor her report card from Texas. The card revealed that Elisa was in the second grade and had attended class only twelve days in the entire year. . . . And the three Gomez boys, who had just arrived from Texas with their parents in a big truck. They were making their summer home in a converted chicken coop on one of the farms, went without shoes all year round and now the soles of their feet had become as tough as shoe leather. . . . And little Esperanza, who lived in one small cluttered room in a barracks building with her parents, two brothers and new baby sister. The outhouse, about fifty yards from the barracks, was always infested with flies, so the mother kept a "potty" in the room for the children. She carried all the water for washing and cooking from a faucet outside.

These people were American citizens, the doctor emphasized, but always "outside" the community because of their lack of education, inability to speak fluent English and low standard of living. What was worse, she brought out, their children were growing up without a fair chance to better themselves. Yet these farm workers were performing a needed service in helping harvest crops that brought fresh vegetables to the tables of city dwellers. Couldn't A.A.U.W., as a group of young mothers interested in other young mothers, do something to make these people feel welcome and encourage them to send their children to schools and to health clinics whenever possible?

Before Doctor Horst had finished, nearly every member was thinking the same thing. And before they went home, they had appointed a committee. By July, several weeks and numerous planning sessions later, they were ready to announce a half-day play school for migrant children—an experimental two-week project, to be held in the basement of a Lutheran church, with several volunteer "teachers." The farmers, when queried, agreed it was a good idea, but couldn't predict how the workers would feel about it. So Mrs. Phyllis Bentley and another member drove out to the farms to find out.

Their first stop was an attractive white farmhouse encircled by wide green lawns, shrubs and flowers. But walking up the driveway past the main building and barns, the saw the workers' small shacks and barracks covered with tar paper and imitation brick, as described so vividly by Doctor Horst. A large

dark-haired woman stood fanning herself with a red fly swatter as she idly watched two small children playing in a mud puddle in the yard.

"Hello," Mrs. Bentley called as she walked over and introduced herself. "We came to invite your children to a new play school that opens next week. We'll pick them up and drive them home if you'll let them come."

The woman shook her head and looked away. *I guess she doesn't understand—now what do I do?* Phyllis Bentley wondered.

At that moment her six-year-old son, who had been waiting impatiently in the car, came running up the driveway. "It's too hot in there," he yelled.

The dark-haired woman suddenly turned back to Phyllis, but now her eyes were bright with interest. "Will your children go to the school?" she demanded.

"Why, yes," Phyllis said, remembering that the "teachers" would have to bring their own children because they had no place to leave them.

"All right," the woman agreed, "my children go too."

Phyllis Bentley had a hunch the school was going to be a success.

Her hunch was right. A simple play school that first year, it grew each summer, adding new features and moving into larger quarters through A.A.U.W.'s determination to make it a real community project. Contributions making this growth possible have come from local churchwomen's groups, civic organizations, the Illinois Council of Churches (which hired two college students to direct the project) and the Community Chest. Last July the migrant school celebrated its seventh year by moving into six rooms at Old North Elementary School for four weeks and enrolling more than 200 children in preschool, primary, intermediate and elementary classes. The total budget had climbed to \$2354.89, included two big chartered buses and a rented car for the student workers.

It is no longer a play school, except in the preschool room, where youngsters aged two to five have a wide choice of toys and crayons and paints. (There is a large supply of tissue on hand, too, for runny noses.) The teaching program, carried on entirely by volunteers, some professional, mostly laymen, covers instruction in reading, writing, handicrafts, dancing and rhythmic—and practice in getting along with other children.

This morning the primary children are learning songs and rhythmic with Mrs. Ruth Ralph seated at the piano with her small red-headed daughter close by her side. The children watch her lips as she plays and sings, "I know how to brush my teeth, brush my teeth," to a simple melody. Then they sing along with her, moving their hands up and down in front of their faces as though they were holding a toothbrush. In the next verse, they pretend to brush their hair. These little songs, Mrs. Ralph feels, help the children learn English words and pronunciation as well as good health habits.

Upstairs, children in a senior class have just finished a reading lesson, when Mrs. Julia Abbott calls them out into the hall to learn a waltz for the parents'-night program on the last day of school. As the pianist strikes up *Let Me Call You Sweetheart*, the girls move about methodically, taking great awkward steps. Mrs. Abbott holds out her hand to a boy, but, too bashful to dance, he slides farther down against the wall and out of reach.

The piano can be heard in the intermediate classroom next door. When the pianist switches to *Chiapanecas*, the Mexican clap-clap song, the youngsters, who are supposed to be studying, join in the clapping. Miss Clara Louise Slack, their teacher, signals for silence, and points back to the alphabet on the blackboard. Working with non-English-speaking children is a new experience for Miss Slack, who teaches third grade in Lake Forest, Illinois.

In the migrant school it's sometimes difficult to divide the children according to age and grade levels, because some have had previous schooling and speak a little English, and others have had little or no classroom training. Five-year-old Jorge, who speaks only Spanish and should be in play school, refuses to be separated from his eight-year-old cousin José, and sits alongside him in intermediate class every day. Miss Slack tried to tell Jorge's mother that the work was too difficult for him, but she replied casually, "He's got to learn sometime." Although Jorge never says anything in class, he smiles and nods when Miss Slack counts and has learned to recognize his own name in print. With José guiding his hand, he can even write his name.

No one has to ask Orelia and Rosita what they like best about the school. They duck out of primary class almost every ten minutes, dragging four-year-old Raquel by the hand into the girls' room. Orelia, seven, the oldest and tallest, turns on the faucets, and Rosita, six, and her little sister stretch up on their toes to slosh their hands around in the water. (On a visit to the home of one of the teachers, Orelia could hardly wait to ask the question: "How many bathrooms do you have?" Her own home, a small two-room shack, has a brand-new TV set, but no bathroom.) The girls' stolen recess is soon interrupted when twenty-year-old college student Faith Enke finds them out and orders them back to class. They don't mind too much, because there's always another time—and they love to hear Faith speak Spanish, just as casually and competently as though she had known how all her life.

Faith, who is majoring in Spanish at Monmouth College, Illinois, worked with migrant children first as a high-school volunteer in 1951, then as one of two students hired by the National Council of Churches (at \$40 a week) to help direct the project during the summers of 1953 and 1954.

On Thursdays every available volunteer hand is needed for the rummage sale. Even husbands are recruited to haul huge cartons of clothes and toys out of storage rooms and attics—cartons the A.A.U.W. has been filling all winter long with the help of churchwomen's groups. Promptly at nine each Thursday, when the school doors open, a crowd of migrant workers' wives surges into the basement of the school. Bargain hunters dream of prices like these: old fur coats sometimes as low as 50 cents; women's hats never more than a dime; toys for a penny or so. Yet, despite the low prices, the sales sometimes bring in as much as \$400 in a single day.

Upstairs in the health-clinic room, Doctor Horst is finishing her Thursday examination of babies, aided by members of the Des Plaines Junior Woman's Club. The small room is full of people getting in one another's way: Doctor Horst's own five-year-old Katy, interested in everything her mother does; two young

Continued on page 14

Meet the Migrant Worker



COMPRISING a large part of the agricultural industry's labor force and one whose services are indispensable, migrant farm workers receive the attention and service of the State Department of Labor and seven other State agencies during the two-to-five month period they spend in the State each year. The extent of these operations touches upon not only the regular wages and

working conditions of the migrants but the housing and living conditions provided for them, the availability of essential facilities and even the recreational, educational and social life which is theirs when they are not working in the fields. Pictured here and on the following pages are some of the normal activities in the life of a migrant worker.



The Employment Service Farm Placement Representatives help farmers like Samuel Martilotta (right) by finding crews of workers when needed.



In accordance with the new law, crew leaders are registered. Here, a crew leader's application is taken by a Labor Department representative.



To make sure that Labor Law regulations are observed, Department investigators regularly visit the fields during both planting and harvesting seasons.

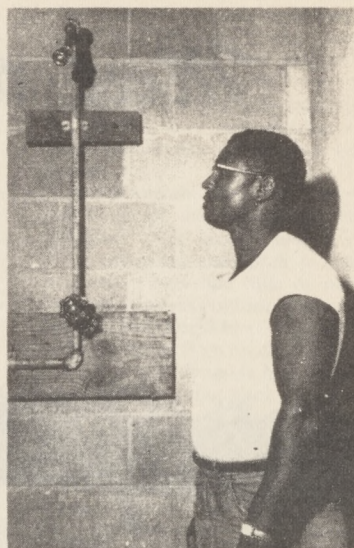


Farm labor camps in which migrants live during harvesting season range from old wooden structures to new cement-block buildings, which usually have modern kitchen facilities. Decided improvement of such housing was noticeable this year.

HOME, for the migrant during the harvesting seasons in New York, is the farm labor camp. Such camps dot New York State by the hundreds, vary in type from old, converted CCC camps to newly-built layouts which, in many instances, can be lived in the year-round. Although there are some camps which still approximate the minimum standards set by State laws and sanitary codes, a steadily-spreading trend among the farmers themselves to make needed improvements as an added attraction for the best workers is serving to raise the over-all standard more and more each year.



With the knowledge that only by offering the best possible type of living accommodations can they obtain and hold the best workers, farmers are erecting units like this one. These can house two family units, and are preferred over the long wooden barrack-type buildings of years ago.



Up-to-date plumbing and bathing facilities are among the things the better crew leader looks for in a labor camp.



For doing the laundry, the traditional tub outdoors still holds sway. A few large camps may have washing machines.



During the working day, an adult cares for a group of the children in the camp, if no other child-care facilities are conveniently available.



After-work softball games are common, specially when crews are all men.



Volunteers from local communities or field workers from the Council of Churches project find avid interest on the part of women and girls in their handicraft projects.

RECREATION for the migrants during their off hours has been the object of attention in many areas ever since the importation of the workers into the State began. Temporary integration of such large groups into the neighboring communities does not always come readily. To encourage and supplement this, the farmer-employers, religious and civic organizations both local and statewide, have contributed in various ways to programs devised to provide needed leisure-time outlets for the migrants.

Many farmers and growers, particularly those using all-male crews like the Puerto Ricans in the photo at

top, left, have found it helpful to provide baseball, softball and other equipment, a TV set or two for the camp. Rare is the camp which doesn't have a juke box. Teams of local women, usually under leadership of the town's clergy, make regular visits to neighboring camps, armed with equipment and material for various types of handicraft work for the women, toys and games for the children. Such activities, steadily expanding in recent years, are reaping extra dividends by helping to stimulate better understanding between the migrants and the native residents.



Members of a Mennonite group bring the necessary equipment with them, find the migrants active participants in a volleyball game right in the camp clearing.



The movie houses in nearby towns also offer diversion for many migrants.



Picking the various crops calls for a greater degree of knowledge and skill than many people realize. Migrant workers with experience in judging maturity of fruit and vegetables and in handling them properly are greatly preferred by the farmers.

THE total value of fruit and vegetable crops produced annually in New York State approximates three hundred million dollars.



For cherry-picking, say a number of New York growers, the southern migrant worker far outstrips local help.



The use of migrants also extends into the local food-processing plants to which "contract crops" are delivered.



Experienced pickers work with a speed which often amazes. Paid at piece-work rates, they may earn from \$10 to \$12 daily.



Where the local labor supply proves inadequate, some migrants are hired to help staff the processing machines.



Child care in migrant camps, to help keep under-age youngsters out of the fields, is a major concern. State agencies and growers' associations cooperate in maintaining child care centers throughout the State.



College girls, hired for the season, form the nucleus of the staffs of the regular child care centers in New York.



Daily programs in the centers include supervised play, educational activities and handicrafts. Parents pay small fee.



The activities of the paid workers are augmented by those of volunteers from national organizations or local groups who visit various camps daily throughout the major part of the regular harvest seasons and carry on regular programs of supervised recreation for the children.



Children in centers range from infants and toddlers up to about 8-9 year olds. Parent's use of center is optional.

C. of C. Votes Support to Migrant Plan

**PUBLIC MEETING
SET AT SCHOOL
NEXT WEDNESDAY**

The Wautoma Chamber of Commerce voted support to the plan for setting up a permanent location to be used as migrant labor headquarters at a meeting of the board of directors Tuesday night.

Speaking to the group was Mr. A. E. Nelson, district manager of the Wisconsin Employment service.

Mr. Nelson said that he had contacted representatives of several of the pickle firms operating in this area and that he was very much encouraged by their enthusiasm for the plan.

Among those he contacted was Mr. L. J. Kelly of the Green Bay Food Co. Mr. Kelly stated that his company would give assistance of up to \$1,000 to help the project along.

"It should be of great benefit to all people who are interested in the growth of Wautoma," he said.

A meeting to acquaint the people of the community with the plan will be held at the Wautoma school Wednesday, May 25 at 8 p.m. All persons in the area are invited to attend. Mr. Nelson will be present to outline the problem.

Roland Kroll, speaking for the Chamber of Commerce, noted that it was something that vitally affected the whole community, business-wise and in other ways. He urges all who can to be at the meeting.

EDITORIAL COMMENT on the above news item points out existing unsanitary conditions for migrants and emphasizes the importance to the community as well as the humanitarian aspect of the project. In closing the editorial states: "This is primarily a local problem....If you're interested -and you should be - take time to attend the meeting at the Wautoma school next Wednesday."

When Migrant Children Arrive Continued from page 8

daughters of Mrs. Faye Mercer, who keeps the health records; a volunteer interpreter; Doctor Horst's nurse and another from the public-health service; and last but not least, three farm mothers with crying babies. Doctor Horst shows the amazing ability to examine a small patient on her lap and talk to other people at the same time.

As she grips the foot of the infant between her knees to hold him steady while giving the inoculation, she explains that she is pleased by the improvement in health among migrant children since 1948. "I've seen no cases of head lice this year, and only a few with malnutrition." She is bothered, however, by the number of young rotting teeth. "Parents indulge the children too much—let them eat all the candy they want," she says. But more and more migrant patients are asking for inoculations and vitamins, she adds, something they never did years ago.

Improvement in health is one concrete result of the A.A.U.W. migrant school. The growing interest of the community in the farm worker is another. But Mrs. Dorothy Bishop, 1954 chairman, feels that education is still the greatest need. "We're amateurs and we're doing the best we can. But the summer instruction really should be taken over by the public-school system, using public-school methods. And there should be classes in English for adults." Since there is the problem of limited public funds for education, Mrs. Bishop is not likely to realize her hope any time soon.

Clinic and the rummage sale over, children race out to the buses. Just one day is left before the end of the term. Two high-school girls help Mrs. Bishop lock up, then wave good-bye to the children. "Gosh," wonders one, "what am I going to do with myself for the rest of the summer?"

END

HERE'S PLACE FOR FARMERS TO HELP SOLVE A PROBLEM

CHILDREN DON'T BELONG in cotton fields. They are subject to accidents, sometimes interfere with the work, and frequently give casual observers the impression that they are working for the grower contrary to child labor laws.

For those reasons, if for no other, the decision by the Arizona Migrant Ministry to operate a child-care center at Guadalupe, southeast of Phoenix, for a period of four months during the height of the cotton picking season next fall and winter, deserves the full support of farmers.

The AMM is a responsible body of Protestant Churches, organized for practical and realistic work among migrant farm laborers, under direction of the Council of Churches. It has operated in Pinal County for several seasons, notably at the Eleven-Mile Corner Camp, with marked success.

The child-care center at Guadalupe, while following an established pattern, is something of an experiment in Arizona. Its success depends on the support of local people who recognize the need and the opportunity for community service. It also provides farmers with the chance to demonstrate their community spirit. The need for money exists. Contact the Arizona Migrant Ministry, 350 N. First Ave., Phoenix, for information, or to make a contribution.

STATE EDUCATES MIGRANT CHILDREN

New Jersey farms make substantial use of migrant labor. Along with the migrant workers come their children, many of whom have never attended a regular school. The State is now making plans for the seventh year of its special summer school for more than 100 such children. Thomas J. Durell, Assistant Commissioner of Education, describes this unique educational experiment in the May issue of the New Jersey Educational Review.

The children served by the school are from two to 12 years old, but they have had little or no other schooling. Less than half have gone beyond second grade, and they cannot read anything more difficult than a primer.

The special school held last year at Perrineville in Mon-

mouth County organized them in six groups with specially selected teachers. Two classes of younger children were run as nursery school-kindergartens. The other four tried to give the children the individual reading, writing and arithmetic skills which they badly needed. Tests at the end of the year showed startling progress, according to Durell.

"Perhaps the greatest need of most of the children was an emotional need for security," Durell says. "Through a varied program of many kinds of activities, all of them had an opportunity to succeed in some way. At the beginning, they were painfully timid and subdued. In even a few weeks, they were behaving like children in any good classrooms, working in groups, not afraid to be themselves."

Doctors Tackling Migrant Farm Labor Health Problem

By MILTON PLUMB
Tribune Farm Editor

NEWBERRY — The health of Florida's 100,000 to 120,000 migratory workers, particularly those who stream into the state to toil on farms, will be improved. I feel sure of it, for any problem tackled by a committee which has the enthusiasm shown by Dr. George M. Karelas is certain to be solved.

The Newberry physician is chairman of the committee on rural health, Florida Academy of General Practice; and the committee has for its No. 1 project the improvement of the lot of the transient or migratory worker and his family.

Other members of the committee are Drs. Frank Chambers, Jr., Plant City; Thomas E. McBride, Apopka, and John R. Lunquist, Warrington.

S. Webb Wilson, representing Florida State Employment Service in helping workers get employment on farms in four counties—Alachua, Gilchrist, Bradford, Union—is enthusiastic about Dr. Karelas' project. Wilson insisted that I chat with the physician; and I am glad that I did so.

"Delighted to Talk"

"Delighted to talk with anyone interested in the project," the dark-haired physician exclaimed when the writer told of viewing many times the squalid, filthy living conditions and lack of health care afforded migratory harvest hands in some South Florida truck crop areas.

"At the outset, I should point out that the committee wants the physician visited by a migrant farm worker or a member of his family to develop as much of a case history of the individual as possible. Then, if the migrant can be supplied with a small bill-fold-size dossier or copy of that history, and there be impressed upon him the value of showing it to his next employer and next physician visited, we will have taken a most satisfactory step.

"Think what it could mean, if a migrant treated in some rural town in Alachua County can show that little history to a physician who might treat him for a serious ailment up in the Virginia fruit belt a few months later.

"Diseases and accidents suffered, the treatments given for them, immunizations administered, possibly something on the family background—information available in compact form which the Virginia physician might examine could easily be of tremendous value to all concerned."

Developing Histories

"I have begun developing those case histories, for the benefit of my own transient patients and the



Dr. George N. Karelas (left), of Newberry, chairman of the Committee on Rural Health, Florida Academy of General Practice, and S. Webb Wilson, of Florida State Employment Service, Gainesville, discuss plans for improving the health of migrant farm workers in the area.—(Tribune Photo).

physicians who may treat them hereafter."

This, the improvement of the lot of the migrant, his wife and child, is not something that Dr. Karelas' committee thinks it alone can accomplish.

"No," the chairman said. "We need the support of the public and the press. We count strongly upon Florida State Board of Health, federal health and agricultural agencies, Florida Medical Society, the employment service, Governor Collins' committee on public health and many others. We were particularly pleased with the cross-section representation of agencies we had at a recent conference on the subject of migratory workers held at Gainesville."

Webb and I listened while Dr. Karelas read in full a report by Earl Lomon Koos, Ph.D., professor of social welfare and migrant health consultant to the State Board of Health, entitled Migrant Labor and the General Practitioner. It's a report that anyone interested in his fellow man should read thoughtfully, slowly; but even a summation of

Dr. Foos' line of thoughts is interesting.

"Marginal" Economy

First, Dr. Koos writes, it should be remembered that the migrant has a "marginal" economic status. While he may be well paid while he works, his employment naturally fluctuates because of crop, weather and crop price conditions. Naturally, too, the health care he obtains for himself and his family varies much in accordance.

Secondly, the average migrant has a low educational status—little knowledge of modern thinking on health and illness, distrust of measures like immunizations, addition to superstition and crude folk practices.

Too, they "share a culture which places no particular emphasis upon health 'per se.'" Some are no more concerned over contracting a venereal disease than they are about the measles."

"Poor Housing"

Fourthly, "migrants have (with notable exceptions) poor housing," not conducive to good health practices.

Dr. Koos' fifth point particularly deserves publication in detail.

He writes:

"Finally, migrants move from place to place. This statement is made not to restate the obvious but to emphasize what is probably one of the most important characteristics of the migrant insofar as medical care is concerned. Granted that he fails to understand the importance of medical care, both because of cultural dictations and because of his lack of education, granted that he is not always able to pay for medical care and that his physical environment is not always conducive to health, the fact that he migrates is nevertheless to be emphasized.

"Living in a community for only a few months at a time, and then, usually, away from the major activities of that community, the migrant never becomes part of the grass-roots social structure. The school isn't

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Doctors Tackling Migrant Health Problem

Continued from page 15

ours—it is theirs; other institutions are similarly divorced from the life of the migrant. Even the doctor is a stranger—not someone he knows and speaks to on the street.

The Permanent Attachment

"The migrant, therefore, can make no permanent social attachments in the community. He is there (in the view of the community) only to meet an emergency situation regarding the crops—even though this same emergency has been recurring annually for 20 or 30 years.

"Medically, too, the migrant's transiency has a special significance. Even when the migrant has a positive view of health and a favorable attitude toward and acceptance of the doctor, there is no continuity in what he can obtain in the way of medical care. To give one illustration, one young mother's conception took place in Georgia, the first visit to a doctor in Florida (and that in the fifth month of pregnancy), the second pre-natal visit in New Jersey in June, and the delivery in New York State in August. Three doctors seen in three different states, and no one had any communication with the others."

Now, what does Dr. Koos think the general practitioner among the physicians can do about all this?

He says the country doctor can refer the patient to another physician in the next area where the laborer expects to work. The doctor can educate the migrant about the importance of good health, help him rid himself of superstition and ignorance and home remedies.

"The general practitioner must view the migrant as a permanent member of the community—even though this permanence be of short duration. Facilities other than the physician's office are required for medical care, and it is the physician's responsibility to see that these services—both public and private—are integrated in meeting the migrant patient's needs.

"There are major barriers in the way—residence requirements, attitudes held toward migrants by local residents, lack of facilities in rural areas, and so on, but if the migrant is to have proper medical care, these barriers must be removed. The general practitioner must become, then, something of a protagonist of the migrant (at least in matters of health) in the community."

The talk with Dr. Karelak finished, Wilson and I "hit the road" again. This time it was to the High Springs tobacco market, to see how many white and black laborers could be placed there for the auction season.

Better Bunkhouse

Wilson showed me one bunkhouse where eight Bahama Negro workers (all men) sleep, cook,

eat and bathe. It was nothing "fancy," but it had an adequate bathroom with running water, a kitchen with stove, electric power, bedrooms with individual beds. It could be improved, but it was far, far better than the hovels I have seen in the areas of extreme South Florida; and the farmer for whom the immigrant workers toil is due credit for the conveniences he affords them.

L. B. and Hooper Gravely, with a large tobacco acreage around Newberry, employ 15 of the Bahamans, and the immigrants like the housing provided for them at no cost. They don't want to leave the farm, beg the Gravelys (father and son) to find work for them on the farm, when the tobacco "deal" is over.

There have been about 70 in the crews of Bahamans on farms in this area this Summer, Wilson said. There are far more U. S. Negro migrants in the harvest crews; but the presence of the "furriners" who like to work and laugh while they do it keeps their American colleagues on their toes and on the job, Wilson said.

"Our living conditions for migrants in this area are far better than those in some other areas," Wilson said. "Naturally, there is always room for improvement; but my farmers are largely reasonable men with whom it is a pleasure to deal. I know they are interested in the thinking of Dr. Karelak and his committee and will confer with them."

Campbell sets an example in housing

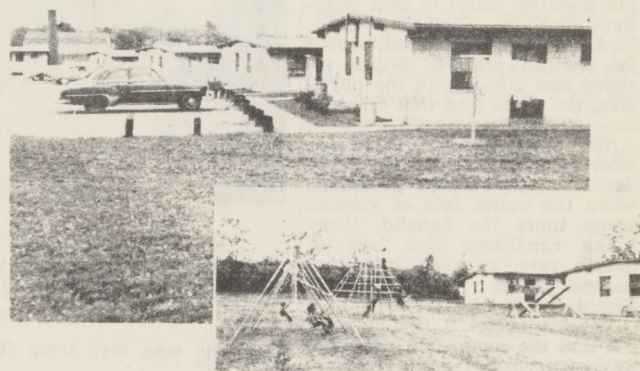
mushroom pickers at our West Chicago Farm.

At our West Chicago Farm, we constructed year-around housing facilities complete with hot running water and private baths for 80 workers and their families. Because this housing is inaccessible to suitable playgrounds for children, we also provided playground equipment which, in a smaller way, might not be a bad idea for contract growers to consider—for a few dollars you can make a child happy and contented and, above all, safe from the hazards normally encountered around trucks and farm machinery. A sand pile, a swing and a teeter-totter can be easily installed at very

YOUR MIGRATORY HOUSING . . .

It has been some time since we have brought up the subject of migratory labor housing in NEWS AND VIEWS because of the fact that hundreds of Campbell growers throughout the Midwest have done a remarkable job in improving living conditions for their workers and the workers' families in the past several years. We bring the subject up once again, not only to commend our old growers for these improvements, but to also point out to our new growers that good housing is definitely a part of the tomato growing business. Because so many of the Campbell growers have provided housing that is attractive to the migrant workers, the problem of labor supply in the last two or three years has been negligible—except in areas where the improvements have not been made.

Also, while not wanting to contradict the axiom that "charity vaunteth not itself" we would like to modestly say that we "practice what we preach"—for during this same period of time that our contract grower housing has been undergoing changes for the better, Campbell has spent a considerable sum in establishing semi-permanent and permanent labor housing areas for workers who picked our demonstration fields and the



A view of Campbell's Farm Housing Project for mushroom pickers and their families at Prince Crossing Farm, West Chicago, Illinois. The inset shows playground equipment that has been installed for the pickers' children—which, needless to say, has been greatly enjoyed.

little expense. Of course, any man who has workers and their families on his farm may be subjected to liability in case of accidents. For just a few dollars, reputable insurance firms will assume all the risks that may be involved. Chances are that with "playground" facilities the children will be much less apt to be in danger of trucks, tractors, conveyors, etc. that, without other attractions to draw their attention, sometimes make them come too close to moving parts. If you carry such liability insurance and decide to do something for the "little folks," it would be well to consult your insurance agent to see if your present coverage is adequate.

A Little Pride Works Wonders *as 4-H'ers in migrant families prove*

DOROTHY JOHNSON
Information Writer, California Extension Service

ALL the year round you can find fresh fruits and vegetables from California in the markets of every State in the country. This is possible because of California's milder climate and longer growing season.

But this type of agriculture has its problems. When crops need harvesting there are not enough local residents to do it in the brief space of time nature allows. So, crop pickers come from far and wide to follow the crops up and down the State. These families often move from ranch to ranch, wherever there is a crop to be harvested, and their children go from school to school.

You can easily understand that this type of life does not encourage young people to accept responsibilities for community life or leadership.

The living conditions of these families had been a problem for many years, and about 5 years ago several community groups decided to combine their efforts to help these people who wanted and needed community help badly. The practical nature of the work of the University of California Agricultural Extension Service through its farm and home advisers made this organization a natural one to bring education for satisfactory family living to these agricultural laborers.

The work started slowly. Two home advisers were assigned to the San Joaquin Valley, and they began with demonstrations on how to use the surplus foods which were distributed free in the labor camps. As they became acquainted with the women and their families, they asked them what help they needed most, and in a planning meeting the women listed 39 subjects that they wanted to discuss with home advisers.

Since that time the home advisers have taught small groups how to make clothing for themselves and their children. The only payment mentioned was that they in turn teach someone else what they had learned. They have also set up demonstration cabins in labor camps showing how available materials such as avocado boxes and orange crates can solve storage problems, and how burlap sacks can be made into rugs and attractive bedspreads.

The Extension Service worked with the children, too, in its 4-H Clubs. Most 4-H work is difficult for boys and girls who are not established on their own land because 4-H projects are planned on the assumption that a boy or girl owns some animals or can raise a crop.

In Fresno County two 4-H Clubs have been formed especially for the children of agricultural laborers. Instead of meeting once a month over a year's time, as most clubs do, these two clubs meet weekly, which speeds up the time in which they can complete a project.

The Fresno Kiwanis Club has provided the money to buy supplies for the projects of the 4-H Club on the Vista del Llano ranch, and the Fresno Council of Churches has interested some of its members in becoming leaders of such clubs. The members of the Vista del Llano Club have enrolled in the foods project and the home-improvement project. Like other 4-H Club members throughout the State they are learning to prepare nutritious breakfasts, lunches, and dinners, with special emphasis on the foods that appeal to growing boys and girls. In their home-improvement work they are hammering, sawing, and painting, making useful items for their homes.

Gradually many of these families are settling in small homes on the fringes of the valley communities. As the women learn a little about how to make their homes more healthful and attractive, and the boys and girls share in the responsibilities of 4-H Club work, a pride in the home grows and family ties are strengthened.



Families of agricultural laborers in California watch Home Adviser Anna Price Garner prepare a nutritious meal from surplus foods.

*Progress Report on***MIGRANT LABOR CONDITIONS**

Despite the fact that there's still a long way to go, no one can deny the giant steps being taken to improve living and working conditions for New York State's migrant farm workers . . . Problems that call for united community action on the local, regional and State levels are being resolved . . . Significant improvements are reported in this article, which is based on a series of visits to several upstate migrant labor camps . . .

ALTHOUGH NEW YORK is regarded as the business and financial capital of the nation, the Empire State is also one of the country's leading agricultural states. Farming is, in fact, the largest as well as the oldest industry in the State.

Gross sales of products from New York farms annually total nearly a billion dollars. Fruit and vegetable crops alone are worth almost three hundred million dollars a year.

The production of these enormous quantities of food requires the efforts of approximately 125,000 people who work on farms throughout the State. More than half of these are seasonal workers—those needed just for the harvesting.

At one time the average farmer needed to look no farther than the neighboring towns or villages to obtain workers when time came to pick his crops. With the passing of the years, however, fewer of the local people were available for these jobs so, with the active assistance and cooperation of government agencies, recruiting of needed workers from elsewhere was initiated.

TODAY more than 30,000 migrant farm workers cross the State borders each year. Travelling in groups numbering from 25 to 150, these workers—most of them with their families—remain in the State as long as there is a crop to be picked. Since the wide variety of fruit and vegetable crops grown in New York have harvest seasons covering a period from early June to late October, these transient workers form part of the State's labor force for some five months each year.

The necessary regulation and control of their coming, staying and going is a responsibility which involves action by a number of State government agencies—all aimed at preserving high work and living standards, which lead naturally to higher production levels. In achieving these objectives, the agencies work together closely, not only with one another but with the farmers, the migrants and the general public.

The State Department of Labor bears several im-

portant responsibilities in the field of farm labor. Its Division of Employment plays a key role in recruiting seasonal workers as a vital service to the farmers. Through its administration of the Labor Law the Department safeguards the health and welfare of the workers by insuring payment of wages and enforcement of the child labor law, and the migrant registration and certification law.

Through its representation on the Interdepartmental Committee on Farm and Food Processing Labor—composed of the eight State agencies involved in the field—the Labor Department also cooperates in the planning and policy-making programs which have served, particularly in recent years, to bring about noteworthy advances in the over-all migrant labor situation.

PROBABLY the greatest measurable progress has been in the elimination of illegal child labor on farms. Since 1948 when the Labor Department inaugurated its current program of intensive enforcement, the number of illegally employed children on farms has declined from nearly 20 to less than two percent of all seasonal workers inspected. The increase of over 40 percent in the number of farm work permits issued during the same period underscores the effectiveness of the educational campaign which is an integral part of the Department's program.

Farm work permits, required for all minors between 14 and 16, are issued by the State Department of Education. The law forbids children under 14 working on farms without a permit, except when the farm is owned by the family. In such cases, a child 12 or older needs no permit. The Labor Department works closely with the Education Department in administering this law.

A major problem of the State's agricultural industry is the recruitment of seasonal labor. With the steady decline of workers from local and statewide areas, out-of-state labor has become a major factor in supplying needed manpower.



Snap beans constitute one of the major crops in central New York during the month of August. Pickers are paid by the "hamper"—the bushel basket.

These out-of-state workers generally come from two groups—migrant and foreign workers. The migrants are the agricultural workers from other states—mostly Negroes from southern states who travel together with their families in crews organized by and under the supervision of a crew leader who handles all business matters for the entire group. The foreign workers include natives of Jamaica, the Bahamas and other British West Indies islands, imported by special arrangement for specific periods of time. These groups are composed of men only, are used mainly by growers' cooperatives and large food processing concerns for harvesting extensive acreage.

PUERTO Rican workers, although U. S. citizens, are generally classed as foreign or "off-shore" workers since most of them speak Spanish. Like the British colonials, these workers are in all-male crews which are put together more often than not by the local farm placement representative from among job-seekers who show up on their own, individually or in small groups.

These farm placement representatives, experts in their field, are key figures in the seasonal farm labor recruitment and placement operation. Part of the Labor Department's Employment Division, there are 42 of them throughout the State, each servicing a specific county or area and, through their activities in placing crews, known intimately to growers and crew chiefs.

Farm placement representatives—popularly called "FPRs"—are probably among the best informed persons in the State on the problems, attitudes and trends in the general farm labor field. They are pretty well agreed that migrant worker housing conditions, the

object of much concern for some time, are definitely improving rapidly.

"Farmers are beginning to realize more and more that good housing draws the best workers," said Jesse B. Sweeting, FPR for Oneida County, "and so more and more farmers are improving housing and other conditions in their camps."

Sweeting, whose views typified those of his fellow FPRs, also reported an almost unanimously favorable reaction among crew leaders to the new registration and certification law passed this spring by the Legislature and effective as of last July 1.

THIS law provides that all crew leaders, contractors and any other persons engaged in recruiting, employment or supervision for a fee of migrant farm workers must register and be certificated by the Industrial Commissioner. The Commissioner is empowered to refuse or revoke such certification if applicant is convicted of a violation of law or falsifies or misrepresents information on the application.

"The crew leaders are very much in favor of this law," declared Sweeting. "They feel that it can help to weed out those crew leaders and contractors who don't do a good job and thus spoil things for the rest of them."

Sweeting and a number of other farm placement men all reported the general feeling that the law, properly enforced, would prove a major benefit to growers, community and crew leaders.

ALTHOUGH insisting he had "no fixed opinion on legislation" and "would prefer a minimum of legislation," Mark E. Buchman, of Wayne County, one of the



Experienced migrant workers usually excel at picking, sorting and grading produce. Tomatoes are given special attention and must be handled carefully to prevent damage.

best known growers in the State who has operated a labor camp since 1941, was hopeful that the new law would prove of some help. There is a definite trend among growers to improve the living quarters of the migrant crews, he pointed out, stemming from the current realization that "migrants seem to be a permanent fixture."

The wartime facilities first made available for migrants' use were temporary, he said, and these facilities, admittedly inadequate, coupled with local misunderstanding, tended to sharpen the local problems.

"Education of the grower and migrant, education and the enlightened self-interest of all concerned will bring the greatest results," he declared. His own strong belief that improvement of living quarters is an essential move is shared by most of his colleagues.

EQUALLY emphatic on the idea of good living quarters was Stuart Allen, of Waterville, who, in partnership with his brother, grows seed potatoes, beans and cucumbers. The Allens have been using migrant labor for 12 years and have operated their own camp for the past eight.

"The migrants," he said, "have got to have good living conditions, good housing, adequate water supply, cooking facilities and a clean place in general. The

farmers know that they must live up to what is promised if they hope to get and keep reliable workers."

Allen personally favored the registration and certification law "to the extent, at least, that it will protect the crew leader himself." He declared that "Too many people fail to realize the amount of money invested in being a good crew leader. A good crew leader must be a very capable individual; he must be educated, able to handle people, know how to do things in a business-like way. He is an important man."

Some idea of the extensive responsibilities of a good crew leader came from Willie Brantley, head of a crew of about 40 workers. Brantley brought his crew up from Florida in cars and trucks, to harvest crops in Wyoming County. They arrived in June, after working citrus, potato and tomato crops in Florida during the winter.

"Beans and potatoes in Virginia were knocked out by a drought this year," he revealed, eliminating that customary stop on their northward trip. Like most crews, Brantley's group was recruited in Florida though the individual workers were from various states. One worker said he had lived for years in Brooklyn, N. Y.



Cherry pickers do much of their work on ladders, descending only to empty bucket into waiting hamper. Many migrants become "specialists" in harvesting certain fruits and vegetables.

THE Brantley crew occupied a camp owned and operated by Ross Safford, "a wonderful employer" to whom the crew had been coming every summer for the past seven or eight years. A number of family groups were included in the crew. The crew worked out its own arrangements for baby sitters while the working mothers were in the fields. Mrs. Brantley, for a nominal weekly charge per individual, handled the buying of food for the single men in the crew while her niece did the cooking.

The religious and recreational life of the crew was ably handled by two ministers who were part of the working force. In addition, a clergyman in the nearby town of Gainesville also participated actively, arranging trips for the children of the camp to his Sunday school and to occasional movies in town.

Crew leaders and growers alike were in general agreement in a preference for family groups as the major portion of the crews. Henry Robinson, from Ft. Pierce, Fla., who has been bringing his crew of about 65 to New York since 1948, first to Riverhead, L. I. and then for the past three years to Western New York, explained this preference simply.

"Family groups are more stable," he said. "When there are children to support, a worker isn't as likely to wander off and try his luck somewhere else without warning. He stays on the job because he wants the money coming in regularly."

WAGE scales in New York, most crew leaders reported, were about the same as most other places. Housing accommodations varied, however, although the majority found the average New York camps offering facilities "better on the whole." Running water and electricity were much more standard in New York than in some states.

Albert Corley, one of the most highly regarded crew leaders, and veteran of some nine years of coming to New York, gave the Empire State much the best of it as regards living quarters. His crew works the year around, stopping off both en route from and on the way back to the home base in Deland, Florida. He characterizes some living conditions outside New York as "very poor." In the labor camps which, he believed, were "run by the state, maybe with the growers' associations helping to support them," general conditions were "not bad" although he still didn't rate them quite equal to those in New York.

Corley, who has about 80 workers in his crew, believed that the average earnings of migrant workers—"steady, reliable people who know their business"—pretty well equal what they could make with an all-year job in some other line. In some cases, he felt, migrant work earnings were even better.

"And, anyway," he added, "there's just not enough



During the peak of the harvest season, processing plants around the State offer additional employment opportunities for some migrants. Taking jobs on the assembly lines, they are paid hourly wages rather than piece work.

other work down in Florida all year round to provide jobs for all, even if they didn't want to do farm work."

MOST crew leaders have found, in recent years, an encouraging growth in community acceptance of migrant workers during their stay in New York. Visits by ministers and other residents of nearby towns to the camps helped to "break the ice" as one leader put it. Local merchants who found the presence of the migrants responsible for increased business during the summer also served as links, in many cases, between the seasonal crews and the townsfolk.

According to W. Henry Suters, village clerk of Waterville, a community of about 1800 persons, community acceptance has been no problem in his neighborhood. The 400 or more seasonal workers who gather in the Waterville area each summer "become a familiar part of the village" he said and there had been no criticism or antagonism apparent over the several years that they have been coming in.

The migrants themselves, Suters felt, had contributed in large measure to the fine local situation. "Perhaps we have been especially fortunate in getting the best type of people," he surmised. He had been impressed quite favorably, he admitted, by seeing some migrants in the local post office, sending money orders.

"I presume they were sending some of their earnings back home," he said. "And I also know that several of them opened savings accounts in our local bank."

Mr. Suters praised the work of the local (Waterville) migrant committee with which his wife has been active since its inception. Mrs. Suters also serves as secretary of the Utica Area Migrant Committee which works with the State Council of Churches.

ONE of the major projects carried on this year, she revealed, was supporting the activities of two "teams" of young Mennonite volunteers who spent the summer making daily visits to nearby camps. These young people, all college-trained and recruited through the national Mennonite organization from various sections of the country, served without pay. Board and lodging were provided by the Utica Area Migrant Committee. The local migrant committee furnished needed supplies and equipment for the camp activities.

These young volunteer workers spent the major portion of each day in a camp, directing healthful recreational and educational activity for the children. Each evening they would return with sound-movie equipment and other gear suitable for adult recreation. This program was carried on six days a week throughout the summer.

SIMILAR programs, though on a scale somewhat smaller in most cases, were carried on in several other areas of the State through cooperation of the State Church Council and the Area Migrant Committees. In most instances, the direction, and the brunt of the work as well, was borne by a chaplain hired for the season by the State Council and assigned to the specific area.

One of these was Theodore Trammell, a Mississippi-born theology student at Gammon Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia. One of four graduate students from the Georgia institution who were taken on for the summer by the New York State Council, Gammon lived on the campus of Hamilton College in Clinton.

His duties included serving as chaplain and general religious mentor for the several camps in the surrounding area, providing counselling, and directing recreational programs in the camps. His young wife worked with him, particularly in organizing baby-sitting chores in the camps and conducting Sunday school.

Trammell, who gave a good deal of credit for the success of his work to the "wonderful cooperation" of



Many college students spend their summers doing volunteer work in group recreation among youngsters in migrant labor camps. Without them, some child care centers could not operate.

the Clinton Migrant Committee, was having his first experience working with migrants and declared he was enjoying it.

"They (the migrants) come out readily for all activities except church services," he revealed with a smile. He had met this situation, however, by holding brief services along with practically every activity, including movies and ball games. The regular services he conducted in a white congregation's church in nearby Kirkland every Sunday.

THE local attitude toward migrants had proven to be "generally good" in his area, Trammell said. It was his feeling that complete adjustment was more a problem for the migrants than for the local residents.

"After all," he said, "the average migrant worker is at a disadvantage in that he lacks the stability of having roots the year-round in one community. His is a life of one adjustment after another." The work of the Church Council, he felt, takes this into account.

The crew leader, Trammell also believed, was the key figure in the situation, but he also felt that identity



Volunteer teams often carry sound-movie equipment out to a camp and provide the migrants with an evening of outdoor movies.

of each crew member as an individual should not be overlooked.

"Too many people I've met seem inclined to think of all migrant workers as illiterate, poverty-ridden nomads who are scratching a bare and miserable existence. There are undoubtedly some migrants who are well down at the bottom of the economic ladder but by no means should such a description apply to all of them."

Although limited in their opportunities for regular school education by the life they live, the majority of migrants he had met are not unlettered, Trammell said. In a number of the families there were children going to high school or college "and they're not planning to be migrant workers, either," he added. Many of them have homes of their own in the southern states from which they come which, "while hardly luxurious, are pretty much up to the level of the particular community."

"Migrants are workers," he declared. "Wherever they go, they go to work, to earn money for themselves. There are many of them who could profit by being taught how to be more thrifty or how to earn a living in one place, but the same can be said for almost any other occupational group."

TYPICAL of the manner in which New York farmers and growers are meeting the problems which accompany their increasing use of migrant workers is Frank Pixley, head of a thriving produce concern which operates 700 contract acres in Genesee County. Pixley's firm grows cash crops on contract for a major produce distributor and uses about 400 migrants each year.

At the outset, the presence of the migrant workers stirred up a somewhat unfavorable reaction among local townspeople in the area. Pixley, who is constantly on the move and has a 2-way telephone in his

car for constant contact with his offices, planned and set out upon a campaign to ease the situation.

As a first step he organized the Genesee County Migrant Committee with as wide a local representation as possible. Under direction of this committee an extensive campaign was launched including newspaper publicity, public meetings in churches and schools. He and other farmers and growers gave innumerable talks at these meetings and he also succeeded in enlisting the cooperation of local ministers, civic groups, representatives of state government agencies and the state police.

OVER a period of two years this campaign was carried out throughout the county and, he recalls, "it impressed many people favorably." In addition, the Committee organized and equipped baseball teams in the various camps, finally set up a county-wide baseball league. A chaplain was also secured to work in the camps.

As a result, initial local resentments have been virtually dissipated. The success of the campaign also resulted in Pixley's being approached by farmers from neighboring counties and he has frequently gone over to help set up similar migrant committees and help in the planning of their activities.

"These migrant workers are people who are important, not only to us farmers but to the communities which are dependent, in a large measure, on the welfare of the agricultural industry," he said. "This is being realized more and more and, as a result, the so-called problems tend to disappear."

He believes that the great majority of farmers are aware of this and that there is increasing recognition by the general public. The State, through the efforts of the several agencies involved, has played an important part in this progress, he feels, and he looks forward to its continuance.

COLORADO'S EXPERIMENT WITH SCHOOL FOR MIGRANT YOUTH PROVES BIG SUCCESS

By BETTY JEAN LEE
Denver Post Staff Writer

TO 25 youngsters who attended classes last summer at Wiggins, Colo., school means much more than arithmetic and English lessons. It means learning to take showers, brush your teeth and eat proper food. But mostly it's learning to "belong."

They're "rovers," these kids.

They came up from Texas and south of the border with parents who eke out a living working the beets, often moving on to pick cherries in Michigan and then perhaps cotton in Texas or Arizona.

They have a lot to learn.

There was Delia Garza, for example. She was 7, didn't know a word of English. But at the end of the first day of school she went home smiling—and murmuring to herself five precious words: "Boy, girl, paper, pencil and chair." She was beginning to understand, and to belong.

THERE are thousands of little girls like Delia. Hundreds of them come to Colorado every summer. But few have had the opportunity given the 25 who attended the Wiggins Migrant school.

The need for such a school had been apparent for years. But who would arrange it, pay for it, staff it?

The state department of education finally took the initiative and appropriated \$1,000 for a six-week session. Wiggins was selected for the pilot school because administrators and teachers there have been working constantly to make a real place for all children in their schools—regardless of their race or nationality.

The Wiggins school board and the superintendent of schools, Ellis Johnson, approved the project and agreed to furnish the building, books and services of full-time employees like the lunchroom manager, Marth Kress, and the head mechanic and bus driver, Henry Freauff.

The education department was to pay for transportation, work books and teachers' salaries.

BUT there is more to arranging a school for migrants than just deciding to have one. Johnson, an ex-farm boy himself, made a survey of the 30-square-mile district where the migrants lived in tenant houses. From grocers he got the names of workers.

Then he wrote a letter. Although Johnson had taught Spanish, he asked for help from the school janitor, Joe Ayala, because he didn't want his letter to be "book Spanish."

The letter was an invitation. It said simply that the school would begin May 30 and continue through July 8, that the children wouldn't need good clothes and that lunch would be served for only 20 cents.

He followed up with personal visits and with him he took a 4th grade student from Wiggins, Joe Segura, 10. Joe helped persuade the migrants that their children, too, needed schooling.

SOME might have stayed at home because of the distance involved in getting to and from school but bus driver Freauff drove about 100 miles a day to round up the pupils and then take them home again. Some children still had to walk as much as two miles to get the bus, but this was small payment, they thought, for their days of fun in the classroom.

Only one family was completely disinterested. A mother of 10 didn't "reckon as how" she wanted to send her children. Her real reason, undoubtedly, was fear—and lack of proper clothing for her brood.

The school's two teachers were Donald Ringstmeyer, elementary principal at Wiggins during the regular term, and Margaret Heussman, regular third grade teacher.

THE children's ages ranged from 6 to 13, but they were not put in "grades." There was simply a younger group and an older group. Three spoke no English.

Grammar was a tough hurdle for these kids to whom our language is foreign, but they worked at learning it on the playground as well as in the classroom. Somehow, even grammar seems more like fun on a baseball diamond or a volley ball court.

They got more than "book learning." There was a rock collection, plants to take care of, shower towels to wash and hang

out at recess, and a film projector to operate.

They were fascinated by crayons and jigsaw puzzles.

The lunchroom also played an important part in "educating" the children. At first they didn't like beans American style and they ate raw carrots only after they had been asked to "pretend they were bunnies." But soon they were enjoying all the American food and making everything on their plates disappear.

INTEREST in the school was not confined to the teachers, students and parents. There were many visitors—Wiggins residents, teachers, University of Denver students, public health nurses, state education department officials, Scout leaders, the county superintendent of schools, and members of the state board of education.

Federal and state officials assisted with the school lunch program, and the Morgan County Parent-Teacher Assn. contributed \$25 to provide free lunches for those unable to pay.

"Health is being demonstrated rather than taught," said Don Ringstmeyer in a diary he kept to record the children's activity day by day.

There was the daily toothbrush brigade, for instance. After several lessons the children knew how to keep their teeth glistening white.

Every day started with a shower, which at first was something of an ordeal, but soon the kids came to love the "fast water" beating down on their sun-baked skins.

Posters also encouraged good health habits, and every child was given a thorough examination at the migratory health clinic at Fort Lupton.

CHECKS at the beginning and end of the six-week term showed that the pupils gained an average of 3.7 pounds and grew an average of 7/10 inch. Achievement tests indicated an average advance of more than five months.

But much more important to the 25 Spanish tots were the games, the showers, the books, the songs, the words, even the arithmetic problems, and the feeling, finally, that a little bit of this great country was theirs.

When school had closed, parents said: "We hope you will have it next summer." That was high praise from the roving beet workers, from those who so desperately need an education themselves.

BUT educators have come to realize they can help solve the problem only by starting now with the children, who soon will be parents.

From this summer's experiment they learned much about aptitudes, attitudes and reactions to various phases of the program—information that may help in making plans for similar schools elsewhere in the state.

In a report to the state department of education summarizing the school activities and results, Superintendent Johnson said:

"These little kicked and cuffed around children of the highways need all the kind words and love that their more fortunate fellow Americans can give them. A great task lies before us!"

Hart Mexican Fiesta

Colorful Event Set for 3 Days

Street Dances, Music
and Queen Contest to
Highlight Show

HART—Dancing in the streets, colorful entertainment and the crowning of a queen will highlight the eighth annual Hart Mexican Fiesta scheduled for July 14, 15 and 16.

The annual tourist attraction has been slated for three days this year instead of the customary two-day run. Gordon Osborn, Fiesta Chairman, said the City Council has granted permission to open the show Thursday night ahead of schedule.

Sponsored by the Hart Rotary Club, the Fiesta is one of Michigan's top Summer attractions and is designed for the entertainment of thousands of Mexican and Latin-American orchard workers who travel to the area for the cherry harvest.

More Than Entertainment

Hart's annual Mexican Fiesta, sponsored by the local Rotary Club, originally was conceived with the idea of fostering good will and friendly relations with the domestic and national Mexicans who annually come to the Hart area to pick cherries.

Over the years since its inception (1948) it has grown in scope and not only has been tremendously successful as a builder of morale and good will, but has proved handsomely profitable to the business people of the community.

The Fiesta in recent years has become one of West Michigan's most colorful summer attractions, drawing many tourists and resorters to the area. It has, in fact, put Hart "on the map" as never before in its history.

Expect 25,000 Visitors

**Climax of Mexican Fiesta at Hart
May Break Records for Eight Years**

**RECORD CROWD ATTENDS
Downpour Fails to Halt
Mexican Fiesta Program**

Plans for the biggest Tom Mix, famous and evening of the following the p...
Fiesta were threatened an amateur contest...
and dampened when a down-tune first prize...
Club members in winning contest, and Gl...
event. But by 2 of Ft. Worth, Texas, se...
es were clear and of San Antonio, Tex...
proceeded on sched- instrumental prize winner in...
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Cars were salez, of San Antonio, Tex...
the residential displayed unusual talents...
Hart High an instrumental trio called...
three profes- guitar. Second prize was aw...
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Excitement ran high through...
began at out the beauty contest...
onal acts seven lovely Mexican...
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Coming at the height of the cherry harvest, in which thousands of Mexicans are employed, the fiesta has also drawn large numbers of other Spanish-American workers from all parts of the state, as well as hundreds of year upwards of 25,000 the fi...



Queen Is Crowned . . .

Miss Betty Curiel, 15-year-old Stanford, Tex., girl was crowned queen of the 8th annual Hart Mexican Fiesta Saturday night. Miss Belen Rodriguez of Hart, who twice held the Fiesta queen's crown previously, places the crown on the Texas girl. More than 20,000 attended the Fiesta's closing Saturday. — (Photo by Robert Bell).

ACCEPTING THE MIGRANT

The author of this article, Harold L. Creal, is president of the New York State Agricultural Society and treasurer of the Migrant Labor Committee of the New York State Council of Churches. His many years of active experience in farming and its many diverse problems make him an eminently qualified spokesman for agriculture in New York State.

IN A GROVE alongside a western New York farm-to-market road stands a brand new chapel in which, every Sunday, there gathers a congregation composed of migrant farm workers from surrounding camps and residents of neighboring towns. The services are conducted by a different minister each week, from any one of several denominations.

On weekdays the same building houses the supervised recreational and educational activities of groups of migrant farm workers' children by day and, several evenings a week, similar gatherings of adults.

Organized and incorporated under the name "Way-side Chapel," this project was conceived and developed entirely by the people in the surrounding community. The land was donated by one of the local farmers who, along with several other growers, also contributed most of the building material, some of the labor and amounts of cash. The fixtures, paint, additional building material, pews and chairs and more cash contributions came from half a dozen churches in nearby villages and towns.

Some of the migrant workers themselves donated their labor to help build the structure and community organizations such as the American Legion Auxiliary give freely of time and money to help carry on the growing program of activities which are under direction of a former U. S. Army chaplain's assistant who has been installed as chaplain-in-charge.

THE Wayside Chapel, which was officially dedicated in May of this year, typifies in many respects developments in one of the more important aspects of the migrant farm labor situation in New York State—community acceptance of the migrant workers.

The thousands of seasonal workers who—usually with their families—stream into the State each year to help harvest the food crops are important to the farmers and growers. For periods of from two to six months these people are part of the population and their presence in such sizeable numbers cannot fail to have an impact upon the towns and villages in or near which they take up their temporary residence.

The basic problems of insuring adequate housing and availability of other essential facilities are the respon-

sibility of the farmers, but beyond the limits of the camps in which he lives and the fields in which he works, the migrant farm worker starts out pretty much as a "stranger within our midst."

Such a situation, ignored or mishandled by those concerned, could easily deteriorate, to the detriment of all concerned. The Wayside Chapel offers but one illustration of the various ways in which the migrant farm labor community acceptance "problem" is being resolved in New York.

In recent years the trend toward attempting constructive steps in the establishment of good working relationships between migrant crews and neighboring communities has been accelerated. Credit for these advances must be shared by the farmers, the local people, the churches and church organizations, State government agencies and the migrants themselves.

BROUGHT in originally to meet an emergency caused by a dire shortage of local labor, the migrant crews were at first viewed by most farmers and growers as a temporary labor supply which would no longer be needed once the emergency had passed. Today, however, the majority of farmers are convinced that "the migrant is here to stay—at least as long as he is treated right."

This realization, coupled with the labor needs of the farmers, has done much to bring about the current trend. As one grower in western New York who recently built a brand new camp with buildings of concrete blocks, spacious grounds and all modern electrical and plumbing fixtures, explained his attitude: "It's a matter of enlightened self-interest."

Along with the wave of rebuilding, repairing and repainting of farm labor camps which is gradually making its way across the State, there are appearing more frequent instances of farmers working actively with community and church organizations, local and State officials and migrant leaders to build up and maintain local atmospheres which will attract the reliable seasonal workers who are needed every harvest time.

A major contribution to this activity is made by the State Council of Churches which conducts a Migrant Ministry Project as part of the country-wide program

of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. During the 1954 season, for instance, the State Council placed 15 staff members in the field to work in 12 counties, with emphasis on literacy classes for adults.

SPECIAL classes set up in cooperation with the State Department of Education in two camps near Richfield Springs last year were so successful that they were continued this year. In addition, the general program was carried out around Buffalo, Rochester, Kings Ferry, Syracuse, Utica, Williamson, Byron, Prattsburgh, Wayland, Fulton, Cutchogue, Bridgehampton, Huntington and Chenango County.

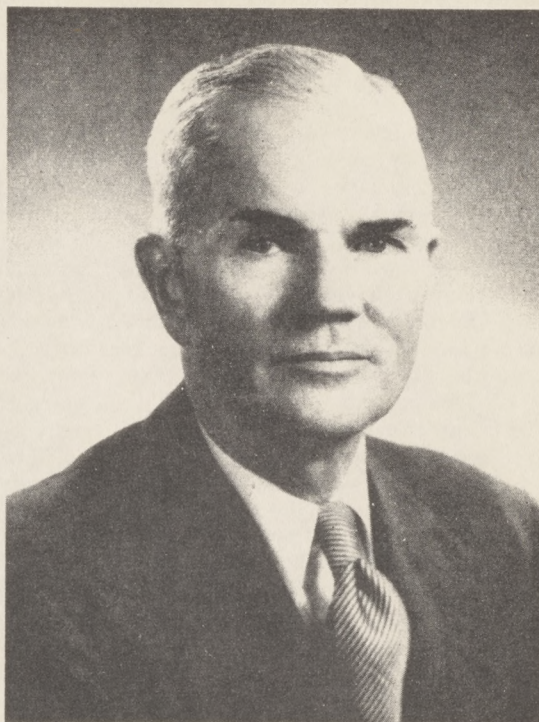
As part of its annual program, the State Council also recruits young ministers, usually from among graduate level theology students, for summer assignment in various areas where they serve as chaplains and direct recreational, educational and religious programs in the surrounding labor camps. These chaplains, paid and housed by the Council, work directly with local committees who provide needed equipment and materials for the season's work.

Local migrant committees, usually organized on an area-wide or county-wide basis, comprise another extremely effective group in developing community acceptance. These committees are made up of representatives of the local farmers or growers (who often are the leading spirits in their establishment) of local church and community organizations, government officials and law enforcement agencies.

Through active campaigns of newspaper publicity and public meetings, these committees have enjoyed steadily increasing success in winning public understanding by pointing up the farmers' vital need of the migrant workers and showing how the well-being of the entire community is closely allied with that of the growers.

IN a number of instances, farmers who operate a camp privately are able to enlist the active aid of their own or some other clergymen in the nearest town in setting up a program of recreation and education for the children in the camp, arranging for them to attend Sunday School at the church and in various other ways stimulating the wholesome type of relationship between the migrant families and the local townspeople which is essential to the community.

An increasingly effective program is developing also in respect to problems of child care among the migrant workers. Outstanding is the project sponsored cooperatively by the growers and processors' organizations and the State Departments of Social Welfare and of Education. Through their efforts, special child care centers for migrant farm labor camps have been set up throughout the State.



Harold L. Creal

IT would not be accurate to claim that the problems which accompany the arrival of migrant farm labor crews into local communities have been solved. Primarily a force of transient workers, the migrants continue to be regarded by the majority of permanent residents as "visitors" whose presence is of more importance to the neighboring growers than to the townspeople themselves.

But, through the efforts of the farmers, the enlightened townsfolk, church leaders and church organizations, governmental agencies concerned and, in many cases, the migrants themselves, the community adjustments necessary to stabilize this vitally important phase of operations in the agricultural industry of the State are increasing steadily with each passing year.

A major share of credit for making this possible is due to the State administration—the Governor and the State Legislature—whose sound, realistic policies have brought increased service to agriculture. The Interdepartmental Farm Labor Committee, in coordinating the operations of some nine State government agencies which serve the farmer, has given substance to the state program by making more readily available the benefits of cooperation with the Departments of Labor, Education, Social Welfare, Agriculture and Markets, and Health, the State Police, the Youth Commission and the Extension Service of the New York State College of Agriculture.

**Health Problems of a Special Group Essential to Western Economy
Led Colorado TB Associations and Health Agencies to Plan A . . .**

by Francis J. Weber, M.D.

Regional Medical Director
Public Health Service, Region VIII
Denver, Colorado

Migrants Program

Two mass X-ray surveys conducted in the migrant labor camp at Fort Lupton, Colorado, have directed attention to the serious tuberculosis and other health problems of migrant workers. The surveys involved the joint cooperation of the Weld County (Colorado) Tuberculosis and Health Association, the Weld County Health Department, the Colorado State Department of Health, and the Colorado Tuberculosis Association.

Migrant workers have become essential to the economy of the Rocky Mountain and western states. In Colorado, agricultural industries based on sugar beets and small vegetable crops are dependent upon the annual migration of seasonal workers into the state from southwestern states such as Texas and New Mexico.

Needs of Migrants Unmet

Despite the economic importance of these laborers, legal barriers have prevented state agencies from providing hospital and welfare services for migrants and, in general, state and local health departments have been unable to adapt their public health programs to the needs of this specialized, seasonal group.

In order to focus attention on this special problem, the Colorado Tuberculosis Association has sponsored meetings to discuss migrant health problems in which representatives of official and voluntary health agencies, the employing industries, and state employment offices have taken part.

Fort Lupton Program

Early in 1954, the Colorado State Department of Public Health, together with the United States Public Health Service and Weld County officials, developed a program centered in the Fort Lupton labor distributing area. The program included screening for communicable diseases (including venereal diseases and tuberculosis) and the giving of immunizing agents on a voluntary basis; providing emergency care and referral of acute cases employed by the Great Western Sugar Company to local physicians; identification of individuals through the Great Western Sugar Company's labor control

records showing places of employment throughout its vast area (Colorado, Eastern Wyoming, Western Nebraska, and the Billings area of Montana); and the preparation of individual personal health records to be carried by the head of each family group as a permanent record of services received.

One of the fields in which services were concentrated was that of tuberculosis control, since the migrant group has a fairly high rate of tuberculosis. The control program included X-raying of all persons 12 years of age or over. As of September 4, 1954, 2,079 persons had been X-rayed, of whom 95 were found to have signs indicative of tuberculosis.

When workers remained in the area, it was possible to secure a diagnostic work-up provided by the Jewish Consumptive Relief Society of Denver which furnished free diagnostic services and treatment to 33 of the 95 cases found. Of these 33, 19 were carried in the out-patient department, while the remaining 14 were admitted to JCRC for treatment. Among the remaining suspects, 15 went to other states and were referred to these states for follow-up, but the whereabouts of seven other suspects could not be determined.

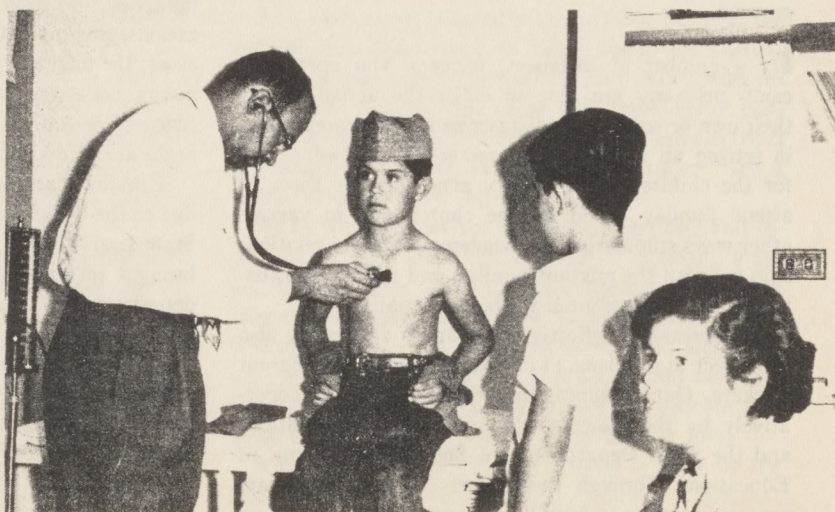
Since all patients at the JCRC are sponsored by local groups from their

respective home towns, the hospital itself is unable to provide for certain of the personal needs of such patients. The rehabilitation committees of the Weld County Tuberculosis and Health Association, the Weld County Welfare Department, and the Tuberculosis Association of Adams, Arapahoe, and Jefferson Counties, answered an appeal from the hospital by taking immediate steps to supply the personal items needed. Later, many other tuberculosis associations in Colorado agreed to donate money for the program to meet additional needs.

Mobility a Control Problem

Although there has been no serious difficulty in hospitalizing migrant patients, when family members leave the state either to return home or to work elsewhere, the hospitalized member often leaves to rejoin his or her family in the new location. This is one of the most difficult control problems in the migrant group, calling for considerable thought and study on the part of tuberculosis workers.

Although it is still too early to judge final results, it can be said that the health project has been quite successful, particularly when the variety and scope of services provided to migrant workers with the limited funds available are taken into consideration. Plans are under way to improve and expand the Colorado experiment in coming months.



Children of migrant agricultural workers are examined at the Fort Lupton (Colo.) Labor Camp as part of the program designed to meet the special health problems of this seasonal group.

Here And There Along The Migrant Routes

The foregoing clippings, and notes on this page, describe only a representative few of the hundreds of similar programs being carried out along the migrant routes.

Community acceptance of migrants as people, worthy of the benefits of citizenship is becoming more widespread. There also is increased awareness among growers and tradespeople that profit as well as moral satisfaction may be derived from their efforts to improve the migrant's lot.

It is the responsibility of the Farm Placement Service to keep the community informed when migrant workers will be needed and to encourage and cooperate in community programs that facilitate the recruitment and movement of capable, experienced workers to the area.

Keeping up the good work -- Increased activity in all phases of migrant welfare is reported by the New Jersey migrant Labor Bureau. Camp inspections, attendance at migrant health clinics, schools and other services all have been stepped up. The Seabrook Farms Community Project continues to provide facilities and services for the spiritual and physical wellbeing of migrant workers and their families. The project has the continuous cooperation of State and local offices of the New Jersey Employment Service, and many local groups contribute generously.

Housing zooms -- More than \$3,000,000 has been spent on migrant housing facilities in Michigan since 1948, says an editorial in the Grand Rapids Herald. The editorial comments that it takes time and money to build housing and that Michigan's progress is heartening.

In Virginia, the Byrd apple orchards built in 1955 a farm labor camp to house 200 migrants in family groups; the Frederick County Fruit Growers Association provided a camp to house 150 in family groups.

In California the Governor's Council reports Santa Cruz and Monterey County farmers have arranged for a labor contractor to supervise and maintain a "model" housing project accommodating 1,000. The report states that the project provides a sanitary system that "would do credit to a small town." It has an electric disposal unit, refrigeration, meat grinders, tortilla-making machines, and trucks converted to buses for transporting farm workers.

"He Profits Most Who Serves the Best" -- Grower John Annett who is president of the Milford, Delaware Rotary Club, believes in its motto. Each year sees some new improvement in the facilities provided for his migrant workers. Thus far these consist of family unit housing with central cooking, laundry and shower facilities, a building for recreational and religious activities, and a day nursery. His close contact with local churches, service clubs, and welfare organizations has resulted in a well-organized program of social and religious activities. Mr. Annett has arranged with the school superintendent to have a certified teacher assigned to his camp to conduct classes.

Migrants right at home -- In Toppenish, Washington, when Spanish speaking migrants arrive, one moving picture theatre features all Spanish pictures and newsreels. Theatres in several other towns in the area show Spanish pictures once a week. Stations KENE and KREW have Spanish-speaking persons in charge of disc-jockey request programs. These programs include news of interest to migrants and commercials in

Spanish advertising goods and services of local merchants. A number of retail merchants in Toppenish have employed Spanish-speaking clerks. The local school boards provide additional teachers to take care of the increased enrollment. One grower employing up to 600 workers at peak has provided a well-equipped playground, outdoor dancing floor, a recreation building with kitchen equipment which is also used for religious services.

Continuity in health services and records -- The Florida Board of Health examined 300 migrant crew members and gave each family a plastic case with medical records to present to doctors enroute. Board of Health representatives travelled with crew along the seaboard to Utica, New York and return. They will keep daily records on crew composition, itinerary, cost of medical care, and sanitary and housing conditions along the way.

Migrant rest camps -- At Lubbock, Texas, the rest camp and information station for migrants has been improved by city-county at a cost of \$18,000. Local press solicits clothing, toys, entertainment and donations for migrants. Local churches aid missionaries in running such facilities as a child nursery, sewing, laundry, nightly movies and other camp activities. During 1954 a total of 55 Texas communities sponsored reception centers providing similar overnight rest and job information for migrants.

They'll come back next year -- Grower Jack Jue of Van Nuys, California figured his migrant crews had done a pretty good job on the asparagus harvest, so he gave them a party at the end of the season. Barbecue, soft drinks and beer were on hand, and a 12-piece band furnished music for singing and dancing. The Mexican Consul and Vice Consul were guests. A movie taken during the season, showing workers at their jobs, proved popular with the workers.

Good bill of health for migrants -- At a meeting of more than 100 health and welfare officials, churchmen, employers and community leaders in Bowling Green Ohio, it was reported that: Based on physical examinations and interviews with more than 800 migrants, 70 per cent were found to be in better average health than local residents; migrants had health awareness surpassing local citizens; 75 per cent of adults and 90 per cent of the children had been vaccinated against smallpox; virtually all had had chest X-rays; migrants showed fewer symptoms of TB and infectious VD than local citizens. The only serious migrant health problems appeared to be diarrhea and carrying of dysentery.

Report and Recommendations of the Fresno County Project

TEACHING CHILDREN WHO MOVE WITH THE CROPS



A 95-page book, size 7 x 10 inches, profusely illustrated with photographs of classroom scenes. Published by Walter G. Martin, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Fresno, California.

The Foreword states: "This is a book for teachers of children who move with the crops, and for all school workers and citizens of your communities who are concerned with providing opportunity for them in our public schools."

The program emphasizes, over and above the teaching of language and the three R's, instruction and practice in subjects that have particular application to the lives of children in migrant camps. These include: Health and Safety; Homemaking; Industrial Arts; and Recreation.

Children are taught by example and classroom practice how and why they should care for their teeth and eyes; what constitutes good nutrition; the importance of cleanliness to good health; how to avoid the many safety hazards that are inevitable in camp life and what to do in case of accident or injury.

In homemaking and industrial arts programs, older children learn and practice all the fine points of personal grooming; how to plan and cook well balanced meals and how to buy food; how to care for younger children; home nursing and first aid; construction and care of clothing; how to make their homes more attractive and how to make necessary furniture of the materials at hand; how to design and make decorative objects; how to make home repairs; and how to use and care for machinery.

The recreation program includes how to organize social activities; make equipment for and play games; group singing and dancing; and how to play simple musical instruments.

Teaching Children Who Move With The Crops

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The community's judge helps boys and girls learn the meaning of American citizenship.